

ter. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title note set out under section 1601 of this title and Tables.

§ 1647. Eligible Indian veteran services

(a) Findings; purpose

(1) Findings

Congress finds that—

(A) collaborations between the Secretary and the Secretary of Veterans Affairs regarding the treatment of Indian veterans at facilities of the Service should be encouraged to the maximum extent practicable; and

(B) increased enrollment for services of the Department of Veterans Affairs by veterans who are members of Indian tribes should be encouraged to the maximum extent practicable.

(2) Purpose

The purpose of this section is to reaffirm the goals stated in the document entitled “Memorandum of Understanding Between the VA/Veterans Health Administration And HHS/Indian Health Service” and dated February 25, 2003 (relating to cooperation and resource sharing between the Veterans Health Administration and Service).

(b) Definitions

In this section:

(1) Eligible Indian veteran

The term “eligible Indian veteran” means an Indian or Alaska Native veteran who receives any medical service that is—

(A) authorized under the laws administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs; and

(B) administered at a facility of the Service (including a facility operated by an Indian tribe or tribal organization through a contract or compact with the Service under the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act (25 U.S.C. 450 et seq.))¹ pursuant to a local memorandum of understanding.

(2) Local memorandum of understanding

The term “local memorandum of understanding” means a memorandum of understanding between the Secretary (or a designee, including the director of any area office of the Service) and the Secretary of Veterans Affairs (or a designee) to implement the document entitled “Memorandum of Understanding Between the VA/Veterans Health Administration And HHS/Indian Health Service” and dated February 25, 2003 (relating to cooperation and resource sharing between the Veterans Health Administration and Indian Health Service).

(c) Eligible Indian veterans expenses

(1) In general

Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Secretary shall provide for veteran-related expenses incurred by eligible Indian veterans as described in subsection (b)(1)(B).

(2) Method of payment

The Secretary shall establish such guidelines as the Secretary determines to be appro-

priate regarding the method of payments to the Secretary of Veterans Affairs under paragraph (1).

(d) Tribal approval of memoranda

In negotiating a local memorandum of understanding with the Secretary of Veterans Affairs regarding the provision of services to eligible Indian veterans, the Secretary shall consult with each Indian tribe that would be affected by the local memorandum of understanding.

(e) Funding

(1) Treatment

Expenses incurred by the Secretary in carrying out subsection (c)(1) shall not be considered to be Contract Health Service expenses.

(2) Use of funds

Of funds made available to the Secretary in appropriations Acts for the Service (excluding funds made available for facilities, Contract Health Services, or contract support costs), the Secretary shall use such sums as are necessary to carry out this section.

(Pub. L. 94-437, title IV, § 407, as added Pub. L. 111-148, title X, § 10221(a), Mar. 23, 2010, 124 Stat. 935.)

Editorial Notes

REFERENCES IN TEXT

The Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act (25 U.S.C. 450 et seq.), referred to in subsec. (b)(1)(B), is Pub. L. 93-638, Jan. 4, 1975, 88 Stat. 2203, which was classified principally to subchapter II (§ 450 et seq.) of chapter 14 of this title prior to editorial reclassification as chapter 46 (§ 5301 et seq.) of this title. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title note set out under section 5301 of this title and Tables.

CODIFICATION

Section 407 of Pub. L. 94-437 is based on section 155 of title I of S. 1790, One Hundred Eleventh Congress, as reported by the Committee on Indian Affairs of the Senate in Dec. 2009, which was enacted into law by section 10221(a) of Pub. L. 111-148.

PRIOR PROVISIONS

A prior section 1647, Pub. L. 94-437, title IV, § 407, as added Pub. L. 102-573, title IV, § 406, Oct. 29, 1992, 106 Stat. 4566, authorized appropriations through fiscal year 2000 to carry out this subchapter, prior to repeal by Pub. L. 111-148, title X, § 10221(a), Mar. 23, 2010, 124 Stat. 935. The repeal is based on section 101(b)(7) of title I of S. 1790, One Hundred Eleventh Congress, as reported by the Committee on Indian Affairs of the Senate in Dec. 2009, which was enacted into law by section 10221(a) of Pub. L. 111-148.

§ 1647a. Nondiscrimination under Federal health care programs in qualifications for reimbursement for services

(a) Requirement to satisfy generally applicable participation requirements

(1) In general

A Federal health care program must accept an entity that is operated by the Service, an Indian tribe, tribal organization, or urban Indian organization as a provider eligible to receive payment under the program for health care services furnished to an Indian on the

¹ See References in Text note below.

same basis as any other provider qualified to participate as a provider of health care services under the program if the entity meets generally applicable State or other requirements for participation as a provider of health care services under the program.

(2) Satisfaction of State or local licensure or recognition requirements

Any requirement for participation as a provider of health care services under a Federal health care program that an entity be licensed or recognized under the State or local law where the entity is located to furnish health care services shall be deemed to have been met in the case of an entity operated by the Service, an Indian tribe, tribal organization, or urban Indian organization if the entity meets all the applicable standards for such licensure or recognition, regardless of whether the entity obtains a license or other documentation under such State or local law. In accordance with section 1621t of this title, the absence of the licensure of a health professional employed by such an entity under the State or local law where the entity is located shall not be taken into account for purposes of determining whether the entity meets such standards, if the professional is licensed in another State.

(b) Application of exclusion from participation in Federal health care programs

(1) Excluded entities

No entity operated by the Service, an Indian tribe, tribal organization, or urban Indian organization that has been excluded from participation in any Federal health care program or for which a license is under suspension or has been revoked by the State where the entity is located shall be eligible to receive payment or reimbursement under any such program for health care services furnished to an Indian.

(2) Excluded individuals

No individual who has been excluded from participation in any Federal health care program or whose State license is under suspension shall be eligible to receive payment or reimbursement under any such program for health care services furnished by that individual, directly or through an entity that is otherwise eligible to receive payment for health care services, to an Indian.

(3) Federal health care program defined

In this subsection, the term,¹ “Federal health care program” has the meaning given that term in section 1320a-7b(f) of title 42, except that, for purposes of this subsection, such term shall include the health insurance program under chapter 89 of title 5.

(c) Related provisions

For provisions related to nondiscrimination against providers operated by the Service, an Indian tribe, tribal organization, or urban Indian organization, see section 1320b-9(c)² of title 42.

(Pub. L. 94-437, title IV, §408, as added Pub. L. 111-148, title X, §10221(a), Mar. 23, 2010, 124 Stat. 935.)

Editorial Notes

REFERENCES IN TEXT

Section 1320b-9 of title 42, referred to in subsec. (c), relates to improved access to, and delivery of, health care for Indians under subchapters XIX and XXI of chapter 7 of Title 42, The Public Health and Welfare. Subsec. (c) of section 1320b-9 of Title 42 contains definitions of terms.

CODIFICATION

Section 408 of Pub. L. 94-437 is based on section 156 of title I of S. 1790, One Hundred Eleventh Congress, as reported by the Committee on Indian Affairs of the Senate in Dec. 2009, which was enacted into law by section 10221(a) of Pub. L. 111-148.

§ 1647b. Access to Federal insurance

Notwithstanding the provisions of title 5, Executive order, or administrative regulation, an Indian tribe or tribal organization carrying out programs under the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act (25 U.S.C. 5301 et seq.) or the Tribally Controlled Schools Act of 1988 (25 U.S.C. 2501 et seq.) or an urban Indian organization carrying out programs under subchapter IV of this chapter shall be entitled to purchase coverage, rights, and benefits for the employees of such Indian tribe or tribal organization, or urban Indian organization, under chapter 89 of title 5 and chapter 87 of such title if necessary employee deductions and agency contributions in payment for the coverage, rights, and benefits for the period of employment with such Indian tribe or tribal organization, or urban Indian organization, are currently deposited in the applicable Employee's Fund under such title.

(Pub. L. 94-437, title IV, §409, as added Pub. L. 111-148, title X, §10221(a), Mar. 23, 2010, 124 Stat. 935; amended Pub. L. 116-260, div. FF, title XI, §1114, Dec. 27, 2020, 134 Stat. 3251.)

Editorial Notes

REFERENCES IN TEXT

The Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act, referred to in text, is Pub. L. 93-638, Jan. 4, 1975, 88 Stat. 2203, which is classified principally to chapter 46 (§5301 et seq.) of this title. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see section 1 of Pub. L. 93-638, set out as a Short Title note under section 5301 of this title and Tables.

The Tribally Controlled Schools Act of 1988, referred to in text, is part B (§§5201-5212) of title V of Pub. L. 100-297, Apr. 28, 1988, 102 Stat. 385, which is classified generally to chapter 27 (§2501 et seq.) of this title. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title note set out under section 2501 of this title and Tables.

CODIFICATION

Section 409 of Pub. L. 94-437 is based on section 157 of title I of S. 1790, One Hundred Eleventh Congress, as reported by the Committee on Indian Affairs of the Senate in Dec. 2009, which was enacted into law by section 10221(a) of Pub. L. 111-148.

AMENDMENTS

2020—Pub. L. 116-260 substituted “(25 U.S.C. 5301 et seq.) or the Tribally Controlled Schools Act of 1988 (25 U.S.C. 2501 et seq.)” for “(25 U.S.C. 450 et seq.)”.

¹ So in original. The comma probably should not appear.

² See References in Text note below.