

HR 4798

Enhancement of Veterans Mental Health Services Act

Congress: 108 (2003–2005, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Armed Forces and National Security

Introduced: Jul 9, 2004

Current Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on Health.

Latest Action: Referred to the Subcommittee on Health. (Jul 14, 2004)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/108th-congress/house-bill/4798>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Ford, Harold E., Jr. [D-TN-9]

Party: Democratic • **State:** TN • **Chamber:** House

Cosponsors (10 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Andrews, Robert E. [D-NJ-1]	D · NJ		Nov 16, 2004
Rep. Carson, Brad [D-OK-2]	D · OK		Nov 16, 2004
Rep. Cooper, Jim [D-TN-5]	D · TN		Nov 16, 2004
Rep. Etheridge, Bob [D-NC-2]	D · NC		Nov 16, 2004
Rep. Frank, Barney [D-MA-4]	D · MA		Nov 16, 2004
Rep. Lynch, Stephen F. [D-MA-9]	D · MA		Nov 16, 2004
Rep. McDermott, Jim [D-WA-7]	D · WA		Nov 16, 2004
Rep. Payne, Donald M. [D-NJ-10]	D · NJ		Nov 16, 2004
Rep. Rothman, Steven R. [D-NJ-9]	D · NJ		Nov 16, 2004
Rep. Schakowsky, Janice D. [D-IL-9]	D · IL		Nov 16, 2004

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Armed Services Committee	House	Referred To	Jul 9, 2004
Veterans' Affairs Committee	House	Referred to	Jul 14, 2004

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Armed Forces and National Security

Related Bills

No related bills are listed.

Enhancement of Veterans Mental Health Services Act - Authorizes appropriations for the employment of additional psychiatrists and other mental health services specialists at Department of Veterans Affairs medical centers and outpatient facilities specializing in the diagnoses and treatment of post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD).

Requires the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to conduct a nationwide outreach program at the community level for veterans who participated in Operation Iraqi Freedom or Operation Enduring Freedom who are or may be suffering from PTSD.

Directs the Secretary of each military department to conduct a comprehensive review of the mental health care programs of the Armed Forces under the jurisdiction of that Secretary to determine ways to improve the efficacy of such care.

Requires the Secretary of each military department to take special care in providing for as seamless a transition as possible from Department of Defense health care services to Department of Veterans Affairs health care services with regard to members of the Armed Forces who were exposed to combat or are otherwise at risk for PTSD.

Requires the Secretary of each military department and the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to: (1) assess the adequacy of privacy and patient confidentiality standards and practices of their respective departments, particularly with regard to patients seeking treatment for PTSD; and (2) identify other factors that may deter members of the Armed Forces from seeking treatment for PTSD.

Actions Timeline

- **Jul 14, 2004:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Health.
- **Jul 9, 2004:** Introduced in House
- **Jul 9, 2004:** Introduced in House
- **Jul 9, 2004:** Referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs, and in addition to the Committee on Armed Services, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.
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