

S 1583

Mental Health Support for Veteran Families and Caregivers Act of 2013

Congress: 113 (2013–2015, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Armed Forces and National Security

Introduced: Oct 28, 2013

Current Status: Committee on Veterans' Affairs. Hearings held. Hearings printed: S.Hrg. 113-280.

Latest Action: Committee on Veterans' Affairs. Hearings held. Hearings printed: S.Hrg. 113-280. (Oct 30, 2013)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/113th-congress/senate-bill/1583>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Sanders, Bernard [I-VT]

Party: Independent • **State:** VT • **Chamber:** Senate

Cosponsors

No cosponsors are listed for this bill.

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Veterans' Affairs Committee	Senate	Hearings By (full committee)	Oct 30, 2013

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Armed Forces and National Security

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
113 S 1950	Related bill	Feb 4, 2014: Motion to proceed to consideration of measure withdrawn in Senate. (consideration: CR S736)

Mental Health Support for Veteran Families and Caregivers Act of 2013 - Requires the Secretary of Veterans Affairs (VA) to: (1) enter into contracts to conduct a 4-year program (with authorization for a 4-year extension) to provide a course of education to family members and caregivers of veterans on matters relating to coping with veterans' mental health disorders; (2) carry out such program in at least 10 VA medical centers, 10 VA clinics, and 10 centers for readjustment counseling and related mental health services for veterans (vet centers); (3) expand such program (within 2 years) to include at least 10 additional medical centers, clinics, and vet centers; and (4) select VA mental health care providers to monitor the progress of the instruction provided under such education program.

Requires the Secretary to: (1) establish a program to provide peer support to family members and caregivers of veterans on matters relating to coping with veterans mental health disorders; (2) provide such peer support, through group meetings conducted at least twice each calendar quarter, at each facility in which the education program is provided; (3) select an individual who has completed the education program to serve as a peer support coordinator for each facility; and (4) select a VA mental health care provider to serve as a mentor to each coordinator.

Directs the Secretary to conduct a survey of the satisfaction of program participants.

Actions Timeline

- **Oct 30, 2013:** Committee on Veterans' Affairs. Hearings held. Hearings printed: S.Hrg. 113-280.
- **Oct 28, 2013:** Introduced in Senate
- **Oct 28, 2013:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.