

## HR 3499

### Rural Veterans Mental Health Care Improvement Act

**Congress:** 113 (2013–2015, Ended)

**Chamber:** House

**Policy Area:** Armed Forces and National Security

**Introduced:** Nov 14, 2013

**Current Status:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Health.

**Latest Action:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Health. (Nov 25, 2013)

**Official Text:** <https://www.congress.gov/bill/113th-congress/house-bill/3499>

## Sponsor

**Name:** Rep. Kirkpatrick, Ann [D-AZ-1]

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

## Cosponsors (24 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Del. Christensen, Donna M. [D-VI-At Large]	D · VI		Nov 14, 2013
Rep. Barber, Ron [D-AZ-2]	D · AZ		Nov 14, 2013
Rep. Brownley, Julia [D-CA-26]	D · CA		Nov 14, 2013
Rep. Davis, Susan A. [D-CA-53]	D · CA		Nov 14, 2013
Rep. DeFazio, Peter A. [D-OR-4]	D · OR		Nov 14, 2013
Rep. Enyart, William L. [D-IL-12]	D · IL		Nov 14, 2013
Rep. Grijalva, Raúl M. [D-AZ-3]	D · AZ		Nov 14, 2013
Rep. Hinojosa, Ruben [D-TX-15]	D · TX		Nov 14, 2013
Rep. Honda, Michael M. [D-CA-17]	D · CA		Nov 14, 2013
Rep. Kuster, Ann M. [D-NH-2]	D · NH		Nov 14, 2013
Rep. Lowenthal, Alan S. [D-CA-47]	D · CA		Nov 14, 2013
Rep. McNerney, Jerry [D-CA-9]	D · CA		Nov 14, 2013
Rep. Michaud, Michael H. [D-ME-2]	D · ME		Nov 14, 2013
Rep. Napolitano, Grace F. [D-CA-32]	D · CA		Nov 14, 2013
Rep. Rahall, Nick J., II [D-WV-3]	D · WV		Nov 14, 2013
Rep. Shea-Porter, Carol [D-NH-1]	D · NH		Nov 14, 2013
Rep. Sinema, Kyrsten [D-AZ-9]	D · AZ		Nov 14, 2013
Rep. Loebssack, David [D-IA-2]	D · IA		Dec 10, 2013
Rep. Negrete McLeod, Gloria [D-CA-35]	D · CA		Dec 10, 2013
Rep. O'Rourke, Beto [D-TX-16]	D · TX		Dec 10, 2013
Rep. Cartwright, Matt [D-PA-17]	D · PA		Jan 7, 2014
Rep. Beatty, Joyce [D-OH-3]	D · OH		Jan 13, 2014
Rep. Walz, Timothy J. [D-MN-1]	D · MN		May 7, 2014
Rep. Gallego, Pete P. [D-TX-23]	D · TX		Jul 31, 2014

## Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Veterans' Affairs Committee	House	Referred to	Nov 25, 2013

## Subjects & Policy Tags

### Policy Area:

Armed Forces and National Security

## Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
113 S 1155	Identical bill	Oct 30, 2013: Committee on Veterans' Affairs. Hearings held. Hearings printed: S.Hrg. 113-280.

## Summary (as of Nov 14, 2013)

Rural Veterans Mental Health Care Improvement Act - Amends appropriations authorities for veterans' benefits to provide advanced appropriations for information technology relating to medical services, support, compliance, and facilities of the Veterans Health Administration (VHA).

Directs the Secretary of Veterans Affairs (VA) to include, as a component of VHA health-care personnel education and training programs, education and training of marriage and family therapists as well as licensed professional mental health counselors.

Amends the Caregivers and Veterans Omnibus Health Services Act of 2010 to require the Secretary, through VA medical centers, to provide mental health services, including outpatient care, to the immediate families of certain veterans returning from Operation Enduring Freedom or Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Requires the Secretary to report to Congress regarding telemedicine services (the use by a health care provider of telecommunications to assist in the diagnosis or treatment of a patient's medical condition) for veterans, including updates on VA teleconsultation and telemedicine initiatives, training, and partnerships with primary care providers.

## Actions Timeline

- Nov 25, 2013: Referred to the Subcommittee on Health.
- Nov 14, 2013: Introduced in House
- Nov 14, 2013: Referred to the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs.