

## HR 1628

Veterans Pain Management Improvement Act

**Congress:** 114 (2015–2017, Ended)

**Chamber:** House

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

**Introduced:** Mar 25, 2015

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

**Latest Action:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Health. (Apr 7, 2015)

**Official Text:** <https://www.congress.gov/bill/114th-congress/house-bill/1628>

### Sponsor

**Name:** Rep. Kind, Ron [D-WI-3]

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

### Cosponsors (8 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Ribble, Reid J. [R-WI-8]	R · WI		Mar 25, 2015
Rep. Zeldin, Lee M. [R-NY-1]	R · NY		Mar 25, 2015
Rep. Rice, Kathleen M. [D-NY-4]	D · NY		Apr 13, 2015
Rep. Dingell, Debbie [D-MI-12]	D · MI		Jul 15, 2015
Rep. Keating, William R. [D-MA-9]	D · MA		Jul 22, 2015
Rep. Jones, Walter B., Jr. [R-NC-3]	R · NC		Jul 27, 2015
Rep. Pocan, Mark [D-WI-2]	D · WI		Jul 27, 2015
Rep. Grijalva, Raúl M. [D-AZ-3]	D · AZ		Mar 14, 2016

### Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Veterans' Affairs Committee	House	Referred to	Apr 7, 2015

### Subjects & Policy Tags

**Policy Area:**

Armed Forces and National Security

### Related Bills

*No related bills are listed.*

## **Veterans Pain Management Improvement Act**

Directs the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) to establish a Pain Management Board in each Veterans Integrated Service Network.

Requires each Board to provide: (1) recommendations for treatment, on an in-patient or out-patient basis, for patients with complex clinical pain for whom a request has been made by the patient, the patient's physician, spouse, family member, or an individual designated by the patient to make health care decisions or receive health care information for the patient, or an employee of the covered VA facility; and (2) recommendations on best practices regarding pain management in complex clinical pain cases to VA health care professionals located in the Network covered by the Board.

Requires each Board to annually submit to the VA a report on pain management practices carried out in the covered Network.

Directs the VA, by December 1, 2015, to submit to specified congressional committees the approved clinical guideline, handbook, directive, policy, or other guidance established to govern the step-down methodologies employed by clinicians in VA medical facilities to manage the use of opioid therapies and associated prescribing practices.

## **Actions Timeline**

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- **Apr 7, 2015:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Health.
- **Mar 25, 2015:** Introduced in House
- **Mar 25, 2015:** Referred to the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs.