

S 471

Women Veterans Access to Quality Care Act of 2015

Congress: 114 (2015–2017, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Armed Forces and National Security

Introduced: Feb 12, 2015

Current Status: Committee on Veterans' Affairs. Hearings held. Hearings printed: S.Hrg. 114-201.

Latest Action: Committee on Veterans' Affairs. Hearings held. Hearings printed: S.Hrg. 114-201. (Jun 3, 2015)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/114th-congress/senate-bill/471>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Heller, Dean [R-NV]

Party: Republican • **State:** NV • **Chamber:** Senate

Cosponsors (18 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Murray, Patty [D-WA]	D · WA		Feb 12, 2015
Sen. Hirono, Mazie K. [D-HI]	D · HI		Apr 16, 2015
Sen. Baldwin, Tammy [D-WI]	D · WI		Apr 23, 2015
Sen. Grassley, Chuck [R-IA]	R · IA		Apr 27, 2015
Sen. Gillibrand, Kirsten E. [D-NY]	D · NY		Apr 29, 2015
Sen. Boxer, Barbara [D-CA]	D · CA		May 4, 2015
Sen. Shaheen, Jeanne [D-NH]	D · NH		May 4, 2015
Sen. Brown, Sherrod [D-OH]	D · OH		Jun 8, 2015
Sen. Coons, Christopher A. [D-DE]	D · DE		Jul 9, 2015
Sen. Schumer, Charles E. [D-NY]	D · NY		Jul 13, 2015
Sen. Cantwell, Maria [D-WA]	D · WA		Jul 16, 2015
Sen. Bennet, Michael F. [D-CO]	D · CO		Jul 30, 2015
Sen. Menendez, Robert [D-NJ]	D · NJ		Jul 30, 2015
Sen. Schatz, Brian [D-HI]	D · HI		Jul 30, 2015
Sen. Warner, Mark R. [D-VA]	D · VA		Aug 3, 2015
Sen. Casey, Robert P., Jr. [D-PA]	D · PA		Aug 5, 2015
Sen. Peters, Gary C. [D-MI]	D · MI		Aug 6, 2015
Sen. McCaskill, Claire [D-MO]	D · MO		May 19, 2016

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Veterans' Affairs Committee	Senate	Hearings By (full committee)	Jun 3, 2015

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Armed Forces and National Security

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
114 HR 1356	Identical bill	Mar 19, 2015: Referred to the Subcommittee on Health.

Summary (as of Feb 12, 2015)

Women Veterans Access to Quality Care Act of 2015

Directs the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) to: (1) establish standards to ensure that all VA medical facilities have the structural characteristics necessary to adequately meet the gender-specific health care needs of veterans at such facilities, including privacy, safety, and dignity; (2) integrate such standards into its prioritization methodology with respect to requests for funding major medical facility projects and major medical facility leases; and (3) report on such standards, including regarding the facilities that fail to meet such standards and the costs of projects and leases required to meet them.

Requires the VA to: (1) use health outcomes for women veterans furnished health care by the VA in evaluating the performance of VA medical center directors, (2) publish on its website information on such performance and on health outcomes for women veterans for each VA medical facility, (3) ensure that every VA medical center has a full-time obstetrician or gynecologist, and (4) carry out a pilot program to increase the number of residency program positions and graduate medical education positions for obstetricians and gynecologists at VA medical facilities in not less than three Veterans Integrated Service Networks.

Directs the VA to develop procedures to share information that includes military service and separation data, personal email addresses and telephone numbers, and mailing addresses of veterans with state veterans agencies in electronic format as a means of facilitating the furnishing of assistance and benefits to such veterans. Allows a veteran to elect to prevent their information from being shared.

Directs the Government Accountability Office to carry out an examination of whether VA medical centers are able to meet the health care needs of women veterans.

Actions Timeline

- **Jun 3, 2015:** Committee on Veterans' Affairs. Hearings held. Hearings printed: S.Hrg. 114-201.
- **Feb 12, 2015:** Introduced in Senate
- **Feb 12, 2015:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.