

HR 5262

Care Veterans Deserve Act of 2016

Congress: 114 (2015–2017, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Armed Forces and National Security

Introduced: May 17, 2016

Current Status: Referred to the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

Latest Action: Referred to the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs. (May 17, 2016)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/114th-congress/house-bill/5262>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Hudson, Richard [R-NC-8]

Party: Republican • **State:** NC • **Chamber:** House

Cosponsors (11 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Ruppersberger, C. A. Dutch [D-MD-2]	D · MD		May 17, 2016
Rep. Black, Diane [R-TN-6]	R · TN		May 18, 2016
Rep. Chabot, Steve [R-OH-1]	R · OH		May 18, 2016
Rep. Chaffetz, Jason [R-UT-3]	R · UT		May 18, 2016
Rep. Rouzer, David [R-NC-7]	R · NC		May 18, 2016
Rep. Olson, Pete [R-TX-22]	R · TX		May 23, 2016
Rep. Sanford, Mark [R-SC-1]	R · SC		May 31, 2016
Rep. Franks, Trent [R-AZ-8]	R · AZ		Sep 19, 2016
Rep. Gosar, Paul A. [R-AZ-4]	R · AZ		Nov 29, 2016
Rep. McSally, Martha [R-AZ-2]	R · AZ		Nov 29, 2016
Rep. Schweikert, David [R-AZ-6]	R · AZ		Nov 29, 2016

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Veterans' Affairs Committee	House	Referred To	May 17, 2016

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Armed Forces and National Security

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
114 S 3516	Related bill	Dec 8, 2016: Read the second time. Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 717.
114 S 2896	Related bill	May 24, 2016: Committee on Veterans' Affairs. Hearings held. Hearings printed: S.Hrg. 114-702.
114 S 2170	Related bill	Nov 18, 2015: Committee on Veterans' Affairs. Hearings held. Hearings printed: S.Hrg. 114-252.
114 HR 2516	Related bill	Jun 5, 2015: Referred to the Subcommittee on Health.

Summary (as of May 17, 2016)

Care Veterans Deserve Act of 2016

This bill amends the Veterans Access, Choice, and Accountability Act of 2014 to make the Veterans Choice Program permanent.

Program eligibility is expanded to include veterans with a 50% service-connected disability.

The VA shall contract with a national chain of walk-in clinics to provide hospital care and medical services in such clinics to veterans who are in the annual patient enrollment system.

A veteran shall not be required to: (1) obtain pre-authorization for such care, or (2) pay a copayment to the clinic or to the VA.

Such national chain shall establish an automated system to provide the VA with weekly information on veterans receiving hospital care or medical services.

A covered health care professional may practice his or her health care profession at any location in any state, regardless of where such health care professional or the patient is located, if the health care professional is using telemedicine to treat an individual.

Such treatment is permitted regardless of whether the professional or patient is located in a federally-owned facility.

"Covered health care professional" means a health care professional who is: (1) authorized by the VA to provide health care, including a private health care professional who provides such care under a VA contract or agreement; and (2) licensed, registered, or certified in a state to practice his or her health care profession.

The VA shall:

- extend the operating hours for each VA pharmacy to include weekday evenings until 8:00 p.m., weekends, and federal holidays; and
- contract with qualifying physicians and nurses to work at VA medical facilities during nights and weekends.

The VA may: (1) hire support staff in connection with such extended operating hours, and (2) provide for a a nongovernmental hospital organization best-practices peer review of each VA medical center.

Actions Timeline

- **May 17, 2016:** Introduced in House
- **May 17, 2016:** Referred to the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

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