

S 563

Physician Ambassadors Helping Veterans Act

Congress: 114 (2015–2017, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Armed Forces and National Security

Introduced: Feb 25, 2015

Current Status: Committee on Veterans' Affairs. Hearings held. Hearings printed: S.Hrg. 114-212.

Latest Action: Committee on Veterans' Affairs. Hearings held. Hearings printed: S.Hrg. 114-212. (Sep 16, 2015)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/114th-congress/senate-bill/563>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Moran, Jerry [R-KS]

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

Cosponsors (2 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Tester, Jon [D-MT]	D · MT		Feb 25, 2015
Sen. Sullivan, Dan [R-AK]	R · AK		Sep 17, 2015

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Veterans' Affairs Committee	Senate	Hearings By (full committee)	Sep 16, 2015

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Armed Forces and National Security

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
114 HR 2145	Related bill	May 26, 2015: Referred to the Subcommittee on Health.

Physician Ambassadors Helping Veterans Act

Requires the Secretary of Veterans Affairs (VA) to use the Secretary's authority to employ certain personnel without regard to civil service or classification laws, rules, or regulations to employ physicians on a without compensation basis in any practice area or specialty for which: (1) the average waiting time for veterans seeking an appointment with a physician exceeds the VA's waiting time goals, or (2) the VA medical facility where the physician will be employed has demonstrated staffing shortages.

Requires each VA medical facility to have a volunteer coordinator who: (1) seeks to establish relationships with medical associations serving the area, (2) recruits physicians for uncompensated employment at the facility, and (3) serves as the initial point of contact for physicians seeking uncompensated employment at the facility.

Conditions an uncompensated physician's receipt of a credential or privilege to practice medicine in a VA facility on the physician's commitment to serve at least 40 hours in the facility during the ensuing one-year period.

Requires the Secretary to decide whether to grant an uncompensated physician's request for a credential or privilege to practice medicine in the VA facility within 60 days.

Requires the director of a VA medical facility to approve, and accept the uncompensated services of, any physician who has made the requisite service commitment and receives a credential or privilege to practice medicine in such facility.

Actions Timeline

- **Sep 16, 2015:** Committee on Veterans' Affairs. Hearings held. Hearings printed: S.Hrg. 114-212.
- **Feb 25, 2015:** Introduced in Senate
- **Feb 25, 2015:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.