

S 1526

Veterans Access to Care Act of 2017

Congress: 115 (2017–2019, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Armed Forces and National Security

Introduced: Jul 11, 2017

Current Status: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

Latest Action: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs. (Jul 11, 2017)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/senate-bill/1526>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Tester, Jon [D-MT]

Party: Democratic • **State:** MT • **Chamber:** Senate

Cosponsors (9 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Baldwin, Tammy [D-WI]	D · WI		Jul 11, 2017
Sen. Blumenthal, Richard [D-CT]	D · CT		Jul 11, 2017
Sen. Brown, Sherrod [D-OH]	D · OH		Jul 11, 2017
Sen. Hirono, Mazie K. [D-HI]	D · HI		Jul 11, 2017
Sen. King, Angus S., Jr. [I-ME]	I · ME		Jul 11, 2017
Sen. Murray, Patty [D-WA]	D · WA		Jul 11, 2017
Sen. Sanders, Bernard [I-VT]	I · VT		Jul 11, 2017
Sen. Peters, Gary C. [D-MI]	D · MI		Jul 17, 2017
Sen. Nelson, Bill [D-FL]	D · FL		Jul 20, 2017

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Veterans' Affairs Committee	Senate	Referred To	Jul 11, 2017

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Armed Forces and National Security

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
115 S 1527	Related bill	Jul 11, 2017: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Appropriations.

Veterans Access to Care Act of 2017

This bill authorizes and appropriates funds for: (1) Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) health care, and (2) the veterans choice program.

The VA shall conduct a program to increase by up to 1,500 the number of graduate medical education residency positions at covered facilities.

The bill expands: (1) eligibility for the VA family caregiver program to include members of the Armed Forces or veterans who were seriously injured or became ill on active duty prior to September 11, 2001; and (2) services to caregivers of veterans under such program to include child care, financial planning, and legal services.

The support program for caregivers of covered veterans is terminated on October 1, 2022, except that any caregiver activities carried out on September 30, 2022, shall be continued.

The VA may carry out specified major medical facility leases in Alabama, Colorado, California, Florida, Georgia, Indiana, Maine, Michigan, Massachusetts, Montana, New York, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Texas, and Virginia.

The VA may record as a U.S. government obligation amounts owed for hospital care or medical services furnished at non-VA facilities when a health care provider's payment claim is approved, rather than when the VA authorizes such care or services.

Actions Timeline

- **Jul 11, 2017:** Introduced in Senate
- **Jul 11, 2017:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

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