

HR 1749

VET CARE Act of 2017

Congress: 115 (2017–2019, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Armed Forces and National Security

Introduced: Mar 28, 2017

Current Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on Health.

Latest Action: Referred to the Subcommittee on Health. (Mar 28, 2017)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/house-bill/1749>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Bilirakis, Gus M. [R-FL-12]

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

Cosponsors (6 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Jones, Walter B., Jr. [R-NC-3]	R · NC		Sep 5, 2017
Resident Commissioner González-Colón, Jenniffer [R-PR-At Large]	R · PR		Sep 7, 2017
Rep. Mast, Brian J. [R-FL-18]	R · FL		Oct 23, 2017
Rep. Young, David [R-IA-3]	R · IA		Oct 31, 2017
Rep. Ferguson, A. Drew, IV [R-GA-3]	R · GA		Jan 10, 2018
Rep. Smith, Christopher H. [R-NJ-4]	R · NJ		May 29, 2018

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Veterans' Affairs Committee	House	Referred to	Mar 28, 2017

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Armed Forces and National Security

Related Bills

No related bills are listed.

Veterans Early Treatment for Chronic Ailment Resurgence through Examinations Act of 2017 or the VET CARE Act of 2017

This bill directs the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) to: (1) carry out a four-year pilot program in five Veterans Health Administration facilities to provide outpatient dental services and treatment, and related dental appliances, to eligible veterans at no cost; and (2) determine whether there is a correlation between veterans receiving such services and their suffering fewer complications of chronic ailments, thereby yielding a lower cost of care.

"Eligible veterans" means veterans who are:

- enrolled in, but not eligible for dental care under, the VA's health care program;
- between 40 and 70 years of age; and
- diagnosed with type 2 diabetes.

Applicants shall receive an initial periodontal evaluation. Those diagnosed with periodontal disease that requires surgery shall be disqualified.

The VA shall enroll at least 1,500 eligible veterans, one-third of whom shall have been diagnosed with no or mild periodontitis and two-thirds of whom shall have been diagnosed with moderate to severe periodontitis.

Actions Timeline

- **Mar 28, 2017:** Introduced in House
- **Mar 28, 2017:** Referred to the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs.
- **Mar 28, 2017:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Health.