

## HR 1848

Veterans Affairs Medical Scribe Pilot Act of 2017

**Congress:** 115 (2017–2019, Ended)

**Chamber:** House

**Policy Area:** Armed Forces and National Security

**Introduced:** Apr 3, 2017

**Current Status:** Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

**Latest Action:** Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs. (Jul 25, 2017)

**Official Text:** <https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/house-bill/1848>

### Sponsor

**Name:** Rep. Roe, David P. [R-TN-1]

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

### Cosponsors (3 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Higgins, Clay [R-LA-3]	R · LA		Apr 3, 2017
Rep. Walden, Greg [R-OR-2]	R · OR		Apr 3, 2017
Rep. Young, David [R-IA-3]	R · IA		May 1, 2017

### Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Veterans' Affairs Committee	House	Reported by	Apr 6, 2017
Veterans' Affairs Committee	Senate	Referred To	Jul 25, 2017

### Subjects & Policy Tags

#### Policy Area:

Armed Forces and National Security

### Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
115 S 2372	Related bill	<b>Jun 6, 2018:</b> Became Public Law No: 115-182.
115 S 2906	Related bill	<b>May 22, 2018:</b> Read twice and referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.
115 HR 5674	Related bill	<b>May 11, 2018:</b> Placed on the Union Calendar, Calendar No. 516.
115 S 2119	Related bill	<b>Nov 13, 2017:</b> Read twice and referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs. (text of measure as introduced: CR S7178)

## Veterans Affairs Medical Scribe Pilot Act of 2017

(Sec. 2) This bill directs the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) to carry out a two-year pilot program under which it shall increase the use of medical scribes at VA medical centers.

The bill defines "medical scribe" as an unlicensed individual hired to enter information into the electronic health record or chart at the direction of a physician or licensed independent practitioner whose responsibilities include:

- assisting the physician or practitioner in navigating the electronic health record; and
- responding to various messages and entering information into such record, as directed by the physician or practitioner.

The VA shall carry out the program at four VA medical centers located in rural areas, four located in urban areas, and two located in areas with need for increased access or increased efficiency.

The VA shall: (1) hire 20 new VA term employees as medical scribes and seek to enter into contracts for the employment of 20 additional scribes, (2) assign four scribes to each VA medical center where the program is conducted, (3) assign two scribes to each of two physicians, (4) employ 30% of the scribes in the provision of emergency care, and (5) employ 70% of the scribes in the provision of care in specialties with the longest patient wait times or lowest efficiency ratings.

(Sec. 3) The bill replaces a provision authorizing the VA to furnish tobacco to veterans receiving hospital or domiciliary care with provisions prohibiting any person from smoking: (1) indoors in any Veterans Health Administration (VHA) facility, (2) indoors in a VHA community living center on or after December 31, 2018, and (3) outdoors at any VHA facility on or after October 1, 2021.

## Actions Timeline

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- **Jul 25, 2017:** Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.
- **Jul 24, 2017:** Mr. Roe (TN) moved to suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended.
- **Jul 24, 2017:** Considered under suspension of the rules. (consideration: CR H6173-6174)
- **Jul 24, 2017:** DEBATE - The House proceeded with forty minutes of debate on H.R. 1848.
- **Jul 24, 2017:** At the conclusion of debate, the chair put the question on the motion to suspend the rules. Mr. Walz objected to the vote on the grounds that a quorum was not present. Further proceedings on the motion were postponed. The point of no quorum was considered as withdrawn.
- **Jul 24, 2017:** Considered as unfinished business. (consideration: CR H6198-6199)
- **Jul 24, 2017:** Passed/agreed to in House: On motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended Agreed to by voice vote.(text: CR H6173-6174)
- **Jul 24, 2017:** On motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended Agreed to by voice vote. (text: CR H6173-6174)
- **Jul 24, 2017:** Motion to reconsider laid on the table Agreed to without objection.
- **Jul 24, 2017:** The title of the measure was amended. Agreed to without objection.
- **May 23, 2017:** Reported by the Committee on Veterans' Affairs. H. Rept. 115-151.
- **May 23, 2017:** Placed on the Union Calendar, Calendar No. 99.
- **May 17, 2017:** Committee Consideration and Mark-up Session Held.
- **May 17, 2017:** Ordered to be Reported by Voice Vote.
- **Apr 6, 2017:** Forwarded by Subcommittee to Full Committee by Voice Vote .
- **Apr 5, 2017:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Health.
- **Apr 3, 2017:** Introduced in House
- **Apr 3, 2017:** Referred to the House Committee on Veterans Affairs.