

S 2548

Veteran Urgent Access to Mental Healthcare Act

Congress: 115 (2017–2019, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Armed Forces and National Security

Introduced: Mar 14, 2018

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

Latest Action: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs. (Mar 14, 2018)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/senate-bill/2548>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Heller, Dean [R-NV]

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

Cosponsors (2 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Cornyn, John [R-TX]	R · TX		Mar 14, 2018
Sen. Rubio, Marco [R-FL]	R · FL		Mar 14, 2018

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Veterans' Affairs Committee	Senate	Referred To	Mar 14, 2018

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Armed Forces and National Security

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
115 HR 918	Related bill	Nov 8, 2017: Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

Veteran Urgent Access to Mental Healthcare Act

This bill directs the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) to furnish to former members of the Armed Forces or the reserve components: (1) an initial mental health assessment; and (2) the mental health care services required to treat the member's urgent mental health care needs, including risk of suicide or harming others.

A former member of the Armed Forces is an individual who:

- served in the active military, naval, or air service, was discharged or released under a condition that is not honorable (except a dishonorable or bad conduct discharge), has applied for a character of service determination that has not yet been made, and is not otherwise eligible to enroll in the VA health care system by reason of such discharge or release; or
- while serving in the Armed Forces, was deployed in a theater of combat operations or an area at a time during which hostilities occurred in that area, participated in or experienced such combat operations or hostilities, or was the victim of a physical assault of a sexual nature, battery of a sexual nature, or sexual harassment.

The VA may provide such mental health care services at a non-VA facility under specified circumstances.

Actions Timeline

- **Mar 14, 2018:** Introduced in Senate
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