

## S 3737

### Veterans Affairs Medical-Surgical Purchasing Stabilization Act

**Congress:** 115 (2017–2019, Ended)

**Chamber:** Senate

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

**Introduced:** Dec 11, 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. (Dec 11, 2018)

**Official Text:** <https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/senate-bill/3737>

### Sponsor

**Name:** Sen. Cassidy, Bill [R-LA]

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

### Cosponsors

No cosponsors are listed for this bill.

### Committee Activity

| Committee                   | Chamber | Activity    | Date         |
|-----------------------------|---------|-------------|--------------|
| Veterans' Affairs Committee | Senate  | Referred To | Dec 11, 2018 |

### Subjects & Policy Tags

#### Policy Area:

Armed Forces and National Security

### Related Bills

| Bill        | Relationship   | Last Action   |
|-------------|----------------|---|
| 115 HR 5418 | Identical bill | Aug 1, 2018: Committee on Veterans' Affairs. Hearings held. Hearings printed: S.Hrg. 115-616. |

### Summary (as of Dec 11, 2018)

#### Veterans Affairs Medical-Surgical Purchasing Stabilization Act

This bill makes changes to the process by which the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) procures certain medical, surgical, dental or laboratory supplies for its medical centers. Specifically, the bill requires the VA to (1) award contracts to multiple regional prime vendors instead of a single nationwide prime vendor, and (2) prohibit a prime vendor from solely designing the formulary (list of medicines covered) for such supplies.

The VA shall ensure that VA employees who conduct formulary analyses or makes decisions about including items on the formulary have relevant medical expertise. Additionally, the VA shall provide Congress with periodic lists of such individuals and their medical expertise listed by categories of formulary items.

## **Actions Timeline**

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- **Dec 11, 2018:** Introduced in Senate
- **Dec 11, 2018:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.