

S 1280

Veteran Families Health Services Act of 2021

Congress: 117 (2021–2023, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Armed Forces and National Security

Introduced: Apr 21, 2021

Current Status: Committee on Veterans' Affairs. Hearings held. Hearings printed: S.Hrg. 117-231.

Latest Action: Committee on Veterans' Affairs. Hearings held. Hearings printed: S.Hrg. 117-231. (Jun 23, 2021)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/senate-bill/1280>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Murray, Patty [D-WA]

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

Cosponsors (18 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Bennet, Michael F. [D-CO]	D · CO		Apr 21, 2021
Sen. Blumenthal, Richard [D-CT]	D · CT		Apr 21, 2021
Sen. Brown, Sherrod [D-OH]	D · OH		Apr 21, 2021
Sen. Coons, Christopher A. [D-DE]	D · DE		Apr 21, 2021
Sen. Duckworth, Tammy [D-IL]	D · IL		Apr 21, 2021
Sen. Durbin, Richard J. [D-IL]	D · IL		Apr 21, 2021
Sen. Hassan, Margaret Wood [D-NH]	D · NH		Apr 21, 2021
Sen. Klobuchar, Amy [D-MN]	D · MN		Apr 21, 2021
Sen. Markey, Edward J. [D-MA]	D · MA		Apr 21, 2021
Sen. Sanders, Bernard [I-VT]	I · VT		Apr 21, 2021
Sen. Shaheen, Jeanne [D-NH]	D · NH		Apr 21, 2021
Sen. Warnock, Raphael G. [D-GA]	D · GA		Apr 21, 2021
Sen. Warren, Elizabeth [D-MA]	D · MA		Apr 21, 2021
Sen. Wyden, Ron [D-OR]	D · OR		Apr 21, 2021
Sen. Gillibrand, Kirsten E. [D-NY]	D · NY		Jun 21, 2021
Sen. Whitehouse, Sheldon [D-RI]	D · RI		Mar 10, 2022
Sen. Murphy, Christopher [D-CT]	D · CT		Apr 4, 2022
Sen. Hickenlooper, John W. [D-CO]	D · CO		Apr 26, 2022

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Veterans' Affairs Committee	Senate	Hearings By (full committee)	Jun 23, 2021

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Armed Forces and National Security

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
117 HR 2734	Identical bill	Sep 30, 2021: Referred to the Subcommittee on Health.

Summary (as of Apr 21, 2021)

Veteran Families Health Services Act of 2021

This bill addresses fertility treatments, counseling, and other health-related programs for veterans and members of the Armed Forces.

Specifically, the bill requires the Department of Defense (DOD) and the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) to provide fertility treatments and counseling to covered veterans and active duty service members or a spouse, partner, or gestational surrogate of such veteran or service member. A covered veteran or service member is a former or current member of the Armed Forces who has an infertility condition, unless it is demonstrable that the individual was completely infertile prior to serving in the Armed Forces.

In the case of in vitro fertilization treatment, DOD and the VA may not furnish more than three completed cycles or six attempted cycles, whichever occurs first.

DOD must establish procedures related to gamete retrieval and storage. Additionally, DOD must provide service members with the opportunity to cryopreserve and store their gametes prior to deployment to a combat zone or a hazardous duty assignment.

DOD and the VA must share best practices and facilitate referrals for the furnishing of fertility treatment and counseling to eligible individuals.

Fertility counseling and treatment are included within authorized VA medical services.

The VA may pay the adoption expenses (for up to three adoptions) for a covered member who is enrolled in the VA health care system.

The VA must facilitate specified reproduction and infertility research conducted collaboratively by DOD and the Department of Health and Human Services.

Actions Timeline

- **Jun 23, 2021:** Committee on Veterans' Affairs. Hearings held. Hearings printed: S.Hrg. 117-231.
- **Apr 21, 2021:** Introduced in Senate
- **Apr 21, 2021:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.