

HR 3176

Veterans Health Care Freedom Act

Congress: 118 (2023–2025, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Armed Forces and National Security

Introduced: May 10, 2023

Current Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on Health.

Latest Action: Referred to the Subcommittee on Health. (May 26, 2023)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/118th-congress/house-bill/3176>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Biggs, Andy [R-AZ-5]

Party: Republican • State: AZ • Chamber: House

Cosponsors (24 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Boebert, Lauren [R-CO-3]	R · CO		May 10, 2023
Rep. Brecheen, Josh [R-OK-2]	R · OK		May 10, 2023
Rep. Clyde, Andrew S. [R-GA-9]	R · GA		May 10, 2023
Rep. Crane, Elijah [R-AZ-2]	R · AZ		May 10, 2023
Rep. Gimenez, Carlos A. [R-FL-28]	R · FL		May 10, 2023
Rep. Good, Bob [R-VA-5]	R · VA		May 10, 2023
Rep. Hageman, Harriet M. [R-WY-At Large]	R · WY		May 10, 2023
Rep. Lesko, Debbie [R-AZ-8]	R · AZ		May 10, 2023
Rep. Luna, Anna Paulina [R-FL-13]	R · FL		May 10, 2023
Rep. Ogles, Andrew [R-TN-5]	R · TN		May 10, 2023
Rep. Rosendale Sr., Matthew M. [R-MT-2]	R · MT		May 10, 2023
Rep. Roy, Chip [R-TX-21]	R · TX		May 10, 2023
Rep. Salazar, Maria Elvira [R-FL-27]	R · FL		May 10, 2023
Rep. Tiffany, Thomas P. [R-WI-7]	R · WI		May 10, 2023
Rep. Gosar, Paul A. [R-AZ-9]	R · AZ		May 15, 2023
Rep. Gaetz, Matt [R-FL-1]	R · FL		May 24, 2023
Rep. Fry, Russell [R-SC-7]	R · SC		Jun 5, 2023
Rep. Van Drew, Jefferson [R-NJ-2]	R · NJ		Jul 25, 2023
Rep. Miller, Mary E. [R-IL-15]	R · IL		Jul 27, 2023
Rep. Webster, Daniel [R-FL-11]	R · FL		Sep 14, 2023
Rep. Lee, Laurel M. [R-FL-15]	R · FL		Nov 6, 2023
Rep. Posey, Bill [R-FL-8]	R · FL		Nov 30, 2023
Rep. Buchanan, Vern [R-FL-16]	R · FL		May 15, 2024
Rep. Franklin, Scott [R-FL-18]	R · FL		Jun 25, 2024

### Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Veterans' Affairs Committee	House	Referred to	May 26, 2023

### Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Armed Forces and National Security

### Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
118 S 1545	Related bill	Jul 12, 2023: Committee on Veterans' Affairs. Hearings held. Hearings printed: S.Hrg. 118-217.

### Summary (as of May 10, 2023)

#### Veterans Health Care Freedom Act

This bill requires the Center for Innovation for Care and Payment within the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) to implement a three-year pilot program to improve the ability of veterans who are enrolled in the VA health care system to access hospital care, medical services, and extended care services through the covered care system by providing such veterans with the ability to choose health care providers. Under the bill, the *covered care system* includes VA medical facilities, health care providers participating in the Veterans Community Care Program (VCCP), and eligible entities or providers that have entered into a Veterans Care Agreement.

A veteran participating in the program may elect to receive care at any provider in the covered care system.

The pilot program removes certain requirements (e.g., location of the veteran) to access care at VA and non-VA facilities. After four years, the bill permanently phases out the requirements for accessing care under the VCCP and Veterans Care Agreements and requires the VA to provide such care under the same conditions of the pilot program. Additionally, after four years, veterans may receive care at a VA medical facility regardless of whether the facility is in the same Veterans Integrated Service Network as the veteran.

### Actions Timeline

- **May 26, 2023:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Health.
- **May 10, 2023:** Introduced in House
- **May 10, 2023:** Referred to the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs.