

Suspend the Rules and Pass the Bill, H.R. 5418, with an Amendment

(The amendment strikes all after the enacting clause and inserts a new text)

115TH CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

H. R. 5418

To direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to carry out the Medical Surgical Prime Vendor program using multiple prime vendors.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 29, 2018

Mr. BERGMAN (for himself, Mr. PETERS, Mr. BANKS of Indiana, and Mr. DUNN) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs

A BILL

To direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to carry out the Medical Surgical Prime Vendor program using multiple prime vendors.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Veterans Affairs Med-
5 ical-Surgical Purchasing Stabilization Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. MEDICAL SURGICAL PRIME VENDOR PROGRAM.**

2 (a) VENDORS.—In procuring certain medical, sur-
3 gical, and dental supplies or laboratory supplies for med-
4 ical centers of the Department of Veterans Affairs, the
5 Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall carry out the Medical
6 Surgical Prime Vendor program, or successor program, in
7 a manner that—

8 (1) requires the Secretary to award contracts to
9 multiple regional prime vendors instead of a single
10 nationwide prime vendor; and

11 (2) prohibits a prime vendor from solely design-
12 ing the formulary of such supplies.

13 (b) CLINICALLY DRIVEN SOURCING.—

14 (1) EXPERTISE.—In carrying out the formulary
15 of supplies under the Medical Surgical Prime Vendor
16 program, or successor program, the Secretary shall
17 ensure that each employee of the Department of
18 Veterans Affairs who conducts formulary analyses or
19 makes decisions with respect to including items on
20 the formulary has medical expertise relevant to the
21 items for which the employee conducts such analyses
22 or makes such decisions.

23 (2) LISTS.—Not later than 30 days after the
24 date of the enactment of this Act, and quarterly
25 thereafter with respect to any updates, the Secretary
26 shall submit to the Committees on Veterans' Affairs

1 of the House of Representatives and the Senate a
2 list of each employee described in paragraph (1) and
3 the relevant medical expertise of the employee, listed
4 by the categories of items in the formulary described
5 in such paragraph.