

Union Calendar No.

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 3400

[Report No. 119-]

To amend title 38, United States Code, to authorize the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to assign physicians of the Department of Veterans Affairs to temporarily serve as traveling physicians in the territories and possessions of the United States, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 14, 2025

Ms. KING-HINDS (for herself, Mr. MOYLAN, and Mrs. RADEWAGEN) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs

SEPTEMBER --, 2025

Reported with an amendment, committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union, and ordered to be printed

[Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert the part printed in *italie*]

[For text of introduced bill, see copy of bill as introduced on May 14, 2025]

A BILL

To amend title 38, United States Code, to authorize the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to assign physicians of the Department of Veterans Affairs to temporarily serve as traveling physicians in the territories and possessions of the United States, and for other purposes.

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 “Territorial Response and*
5 *Access to Veterans’ Essential Lifecare Act” or the “TRAV-*
6 *EL Act of 2025”.*

7 **SEC. 2. DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS ASSIGNMENT OF TRAV-**
8 **ELING PHYSICIANS TO SERVE TERRITORIES**
9 **AND POSSESSIONS.**

10 *(a) IN GENERAL.—Subchapter I of chapter 74 of title*
11 *38, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end*
12 *the following new section:*

13 **“§ 7415. Traveling physicians**

14 *“(a) IN GENERAL.—(1) The Secretary may assign a*
15 *physician appointed under section 7401 or section 7431 of*
16 *this title to serve as a traveling physician for a period of*
17 *not more than one year at a time. A physician assigned*
18 *to serve as a traveling physician under this section may*
19 *be assigned to provide health care to veterans residing in*
20 *American Samoa, Guam, the Commonwealth of the North-*
21 *ern Mariana Islands, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico,*
22 *the Virgin Islands of the United States, or any other terri-*
23 *tory or possession of the United States at Department fa-*
24 *cilities or other approved facilities located in such territory*
25 *or possession.*

1 “(2) *The Secretary may assign multiple physicians to*
2 *serve as traveling physicians under this section and may*
3 *assign each such physician to serve in a specific territory*
4 *or possession.*

5 “(b) *COORDINATION OF CARE.—In providing care*
6 *under this section, traveling physicians shall coordinate*
7 *with non-Department medical providers to the extent prac-*
8 *ticable and necessary to ensure high quality and coordi-*
9 *nated care for veterans receiving hospital care and medical*
10 *services.*

11 “(c) *PAY.—In addition to pay under section 7431 of*
12 *this title, the Secretary shall provide a relocation or reten-*
13 *tion bonus to traveling physicians under this section. Such*
14 *relocation or retention bonus shall be substantially similar*
15 *to a relocation or retention bonus offered under section*
16 *7410(a) of this title, as the Secretary considers appro-*
17 *priate.”.*

18 “(b) *CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections at*
19 *the beginning of such chapter is amended by inserting after*
20 *the item relating to section 7414 the following new item:*
“7415. Traveling physicians.”.

21 “(c) *TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—*
22 *Title 38, United States Code, is further amended as follows:*

23 “(1) *In section 7410(a)(1), by—*

24 “(A) *by striking “retention allowances” and*
25 *inserting “retention bonuses”; and*

1 *(B) by striking the second comma after*
2 *“section 7401(1) of this title”; and*
3 *(2) In section 7431(e)(5)(B), by striking “reten-*
4 *tion allowances” and inserting “retention bonuses”.*

5 ***SEC. 3. EXTENSION OF CERTAIN LIMITS ON PAYMENTS OF***
6 ***PENSION.***

7 *Section 5503(d)(7) of title 38, United States Code, is*
8 *amended by striking “November 30, 2031” and inserting*
9 *“December 31, 2032”.*