

115TH CONGRESS
2D 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”.

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

7 (a) VENDORS.—In procuring certain medical, sur-
8 gical, and dental supplies or laboratory supplies for med-
9 ical centers of the Department of Veterans Affairs, the

1 Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall carry out the Medical
2 Surgical Prime Vendor program, or successor program, in
3 a manner that—

4 (1) requires the Secretary to award contracts to
5 multiple regional prime vendors instead of a single
6 nationwide prime vendor; and

7 (2) prohibits—

8 (A) a prime vendor from solely designing
9 the formulary of such supplies; and

10 (B) a prime vendor from solely purchasing
11 from such formulary.

12 (b) CLINICALLY DRIVEN SOURCING.—

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

22 (2) LISTS.—Not later than 30 days after the
23 date of the enactment of this Act, and quarterly
24 thereafter with respect to any updates, the Secretary
25 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.

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