

[Committee Print]

**[Reflecting the actions of the Subcommittee on Health on
June 27, 2018]**

115TH CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

H. R. 6066

To amend title 38, United States Code, to improve the productivity of the management of Department of Veterans Affairs health care, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

A BILL

To amend title 38, United States Code, to improve the productivity of the management of Department of Veterans Affairs health care, 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,*

1 **SECTION 1. DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS HEALTH**
2 **CARE PRODUCTIVITY IMPROVEMENT.**

3 (a) IN GENERAL.—Subchapter I of chapter 17 of title
4 38, United States Code, is amended by inserting after sec-
5 tion 1705A the following new section:

6 **“§ 1705B. Management of health care: productivity**

7 “(a) RELATIVE VALUE UNIT TRACKING.—The Sec-
8 retary shall track relative value units for all Department
9 providers.

10 “(b) CLINICAL PROCEDURE CODING TRAINING.—If
11 the coding accuracy of a Department provider within a
12 clinical area of responsibility of the provider falls below
13 the minimum threshold set by the Secretary, the Secretary
14 shall require the Department provider to attend training
15 on clinical procedure coding.

16 “(c) PERFORMANCE STANDARDS.—(1) The Secretary
17 shall establish for each Department facility—

18 “(A) in accordance with paragraph (2), stand-
19 arized performance standards based on nationally
20 recognized relative value unit production standards
21 applicable to each specific profession in order to
22 evaluate clinical productivity at the provider and fa-
23 cility level;

24 “(B) remediation plans to address low clinical
25 productivity and clinical inefficiency; and

1 “(C) an ongoing process to systematically re-
2 view the content, implementation, and outcome of
3 the plans developed under subparagraph (B).

4 “(2) In establishing the performance standards under
5 paragraph (1)(A), the Secretary—

6 “(A) may incorporate values-based productivity
7 models and may incorporate other productivity
8 measures and models determined appropriate by the
9 Secretary; and

10 “(B) shall take into account non-clinical duties,
11 including with respect to training and research;

12 “(C) shall take into account factors that impede
13 productivity and efficiency and, in developing reme-
14 diation plans under paragraph (1)(B), shall incor-
15 porate action plans to address such factors.

16 “(d) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

17 “(1) The term ‘Department provider’ means an
18 employee of the Department who has been appointed
19 to the Veterans Health Administration as a physi-
20 cian, a dentist, an optometrist, a podiatrist, a chiro-
21 practor, an advanced practice registered nurse, or a
22 physician’s assistant acting as an independent pro-
23 vider.

24 “(2) The term ‘relative value unit’ means a unit
25 for measuring workload by determining the time,

1 mental effort and judgment, technical skill, physical
2 effort, and stress involved in delivering a service.”.

3 (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections
4 at the beginning of such chapter is amended by inserting
5 after the item relating to section 1705A the following new
6 item:

 “1705B. Management of health care: productivity.”.

7 (c) REPORT.—Not later than one year after the date
8 of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Veterans
9 Affairs shall submit to Congress a report on the implemen-
10 tation of section 1705B of title 38, United States Code,
11 as added by subsection (a). Such report shall include, for
12 each professional category of Department of Veterans Af-
13 fairs providers, the relative value unit of such category of
14 providers at the national, Veterans Integrated Service
15 Network, and facility levels.

16 (d) COMPREHENSIVE STAFFING MODELS.—Not later
17 than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act,
18 the Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall develop comprehen-
19 sive staffing models for all Department of Veterans Af-
20 fairs medical centers.