

116TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1527

To amend title 38, United States Code, to authorize the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to enter into contracts and agreements for the placement of veterans in non-Department medical foster homes for certain veterans who are unable to live independently.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 5, 2019

Mr. HIGGINS of Louisiana (for himself, Miss GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN of Puerto Rico, Mrs. RADEWAGEN, Mr. STEUBE, Mr. BARR, and Mr. CORREA) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs

A BILL

To amend title 38, United States Code, to authorize the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to enter into contracts and agreements for the placement of veterans in non-Department medical foster homes for certain veterans who are unable to live independently.

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 “Long-Term Care Vet-
5 erans Choice Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. SECRETARY OF VETERANS AFFAIRS CONTRACT AU-**
2 **THORITY FOR PLACEMENT OF VETERANS IN**
3 **NON-DEPARTMENT MEDICAL FOSTER HOMES.**

4 (a) **AUTHORITY.**—Section 1720 of title 38, United
5 States Code, is amended by adding at the end the fol-
6 lowing new subsection:

7 “(h)(1) During the three-year period beginning on
8 October 1, 2020, and subject to paragraph (2), at the re-
9 quest of a veteran for whom the Secretary is required to
10 provide nursing home care under section 1710A of this
11 title, the Secretary may place the veteran in a medical fos-
12 ter home that meets Department standards, at the ex-
13 pense of the United States, pursuant to a contract, agree-
14 ment, or other arrangement entered into between the Sec-
15 retary and the medical foster home for such purpose. A
16 veteran who is placed in a medical foster home under this
17 subsection shall agree, as a condition of such placement,
18 to accept home health services furnished by the Secretary
19 under section 1717 of this title.

20 “(2) In any year, not more than a daily average of
21 900 veterans placed in a medical foster home, whether
22 placed before or after the date of the enactment of this
23 subsection, may have their care covered at the expense of
24 the United States under subsection (a).

25 “(3) In this subsection, the term ‘medical foster
26 home’ means a home designed to provide non-institutional,

1 long-term, supportive care for veterans who are unable to
2 live independently and prefer a family setting.”.

3 (b) **EFFECTIVE DATE.**—Subsection (h) of section
4 1720 of title 38, United States Code, as added by sub-
5 section (a), shall take effect on October 1, 2020.

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