

**AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE**  
**TO H.R. 5575**  
**OFFERED BY Ms . Underwood**

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

**1 SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “Department of Vet-  
3 erans Affairs Nurse and Physician Assistant Retention  
4 and Income Security Enhancement Act” or the “VA  
5 Nurse and Physician Assistant RAISE Act”.

**6 SEC. 2. PAY FOR NURSES AND CERTAIN OTHER MEDICAL**  
**7 POSITIONS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF VET-**  
**8 ERANS AFFAIRS.**

9 (a) MAXIMUM RATE OF BASIC PAY.—Section 7451  
10 of title 38, United States Code, is amended—

11 (1) in subsection (a)(2)(C), by striking “and  
12 physician assistant” and inserting “physician assist-  
13 ant, and podiatrist”; and

14 (2) in subsection (c), by striking paragraph (2)  
15 and inserting the following:

16 “(2)(A) The maximum rate of basic pay for any  
17 grade for a covered position may not exceed—

1           “(i) in the case of an advanced practice nurse,  
2           the maximum rate of basic pay established for posi-  
3           tions in level I of the Executive Schedule under sec-  
4           tion 5312 of title 5;

5           “(ii) in the case of a physician assistant, the  
6           maximum rate of basic pay established for positions  
7           in level I of the Executive Schedule under section  
8           5312 of title 5;

9           “(iii) in the case of a registered nurse, the max-  
10          imum rate of basic pay established for positions in  
11          level II of the Executive Schedule under section  
12          5313 of title 5; and

13          “(iv) in the case of any other covered position,  
14          the maximum rate of basic pay established for posi-  
15          tions in level IV of the Executive Schedule under  
16          section 5315 of title 5.

17          “(B) The maximum rate of basic pay for a grade for  
18          the position of certified registered nurse anesthetist pursu-  
19          ant to an adjustment under subsection (d) may exceed the  
20          maximum rate otherwise provided in subparagraph (A).”.

21          (b) REGISTERED NURSES AND PHYSICIAN ASSIST-  
22          ANTS SERVING IN MANAGEMENT POSITIONS.—Section  
23          7404 of such title is amended—

24                 (1) in subsection (a)(2)—

1 (A) by striking “The pay of physicians”  
2 and inserting “(A) The pay of physicians”; and

3 (B) by adding at the end the following new  
4 subparagraph:

5 “(B) The basic pay of registered nurses and physi-  
6 cian assistants serving in positions to which an Executive  
7 order applies under paragraph (1) may be determined  
8 under subchapter IV of this chapter instead of such Exec-  
9 utive order. Such positions shall not otherwise be covered  
10 by such subchapter, except with respect to bonuses under  
11 section 7452 or 7458 or special pay under subsection (g)  
12 of such section 7452.”; and

13 (2) in subsection (e)—

14 (A) by inserting “basic pay” after “paid”;  
15 and

16 (B) by striking “rate established for the  
17 Senior Executive Service under section 5382 of  
18 title 5” and inserting “rates established under  
19 subchapter IV of this chapter”.

