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(Original Signature of Member)

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. _____

To amend title 38, United States Code, to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to make temporary lodging facilities of the Department of Veterans Affairs available for certain TRICARE beneficiaries on a space-available basis, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on _____

A BILL

To amend title 38, United States Code, to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to make temporary lodging facilities of the Department of Veterans Affairs available for certain TRICARE beneficiaries on a space-available basis, 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 “Fisher House Avail-
5 ability Act of 2025”.

1 **SEC. 2. AVAILABILITY OF DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AF-**
2 **FAIRS TEMPORARY LODGING TO CERTAIN**
3 **TRICARE BENEFICIARIES.**

4 Section 1708 of title 38, United States Code, is
5 amended—

6 (1) in subsection (a), by striking “in connection
7 with” and all that follows through the period at the
8 end and inserting “in accordance with this section”;

9 (2) in subsection (b), by adding at the end the
10 following new paragraphs:

11 “(3) On a space-available basis, a covered bene-
12 ficiary who must travel a significant distance to re-
13 ceive care or services at a non-Department facility.

14 “(4) On a space-available basis, a member of
15 the family of a covered beneficiary and others who
16 accompany such a covered beneficiary and provide
17 the equivalent of familial support for such bene-
18 ficiary.”;

19 (3) by striking subsection (c) and redesignating
20 subsections (d) and (e) as subsections (c) and (d),
21 respectively;

22 (4) in subsection (d), as so redesignated—

23 (A) in paragraph (2), by striking “sub-
24 section (d)” and inserting “subsection (c)”;

1 (B) in paragraph (3), by striking “under
2 subsection (b)(2)” and inserting “or a covered
3 beneficiary under subsection (b)”;

4 (C) in paragraph (4), by striking “and”
5 after the semicolon;

6 (D) by redesignating paragraph (5) as
7 paragraph (6); and

8 (E) by inserting after paragraph (4) the
9 following new paragraph (5):

10 “(5) establishing criteria for providing access to
11 temporary lodging facilities on a space-available
12 basis under subsection (b)(3) and (4); and”; and

13 (5) by adding at the end the following new sub-
14 section:

15 “(e) In this section:

16 “(1) The term ‘covered beneficiary’ has the
17 meaning given such term in section 1072(5) of title
18 10.

19 “(2) The term ‘Fisher house’ means a housing
20 facility that—

21 “(A) is located at, or in proximity to, a
22 Department medical facility;

23 “(B) is available for residential use on a
24 temporary basis by patients of that facility and
25 others described in subsection (b); and

1 “(C) is constructed by, and donated to the
2 Secretary by, the Zachary and Elizabeth M.
3 Fisher Armed Services Foundation or the Fish-
4 er House Foundation, Inc.”.