

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. _____

To amend title 38, United States Code, to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to establish and maintain a publicly available directory of health care providers that accept assignments under the CHAMPVA program, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mrs. KIGGANS of Virginia introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on _____

A BILL

To amend title 38, United States Code, to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to establish and maintain a publicly available directory of health care providers that accept assignments under the CHAMPVA program, 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 “Clarity on Care Op-
5 tions Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. PUBLICLY AVAILABLE DIRECTORY OF HEALTH**
2 **CARE PROVIDERS THAT ACCEPT ASSIGN-**
3 **MENTS UNDER THE CHAMPVA PROGRAM.**

4 (a) ANNUAL QUERY.—The Secretary of Veterans Af-
5 fairs shall require each entity that administers a network
6 of health care providers under section 1703 of title 38,
7 United States Code, to, on an annual basis—

8 (1) query each provider in such network to de-
9 termine whether the provider accepts assignments
10 under the CHAMPVA program; and

11 (2) submit the results of such queries to the
12 Secretary.

13 (b) DIRECTORY.—Utilizing the information sub-
14 mitted under subsection (a) and any other information
15 available to the Secretary, the Secretary shall establish
16 and maintain a publicly available directory of providers in
17 such networks that accept assignments under the
18 CHAMPVA program.

19 (c) IMPLEMENTATION.—

20 (1) ANNUAL QUERIES.—The first queries re-
21 quired by subsection (a) shall be completed, and the
22 results submitted to the Secretary, not later than 90
23 days after the date of the enactment of this Act.

24 (2) LIST OF PROVIDERS.—The first directory of
25 providers required by subsection (b) shall be made

1 publicly available not later than 180 days after the
2 date of the enactment of this Act.

3 (d) ANNUAL REPORT.—Not later than one year after
4 the date of the enactment of this Act, and annually there-
5 after for four additional years, the Secretary shall submit
6 to Congress a report on the extent to which the providers
7 in such networks accept assignments under the
8 CHAMPVA program. The report shall include the fol-
9 lowing information, broken down by State (as defined in
10 section 101 of title 38, United States Code) and by Vet-
11 erans Integrated Service Network:

12 (1) The number of providers in such networks
13 that accept assignments under the CHAMPVA pro-
14 gram.

15 (2) The percentage of providers in such net-
16 works that accept assignments under the
17 CHAMPVA program and the percentage of pro-
18 viders in such networks that do not accept such as-
19 signments.

20 (3) The specific geographical areas that contain
21 CHAMPVA program beneficiaries but do not con-
22 tain providers that accept assignments under the
23 CHAMPVA program.

24 (e) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

1 (1) The term “accept assignment”, with respect
2 to the CHAMPVA program, means to accept respon-
3 sibility for the care of a CHAMPVA program bene-
4 ficiary and thereby agree to accept the amount de-
5 termined allowable under the CHAMPVA program
6 as full payment for services and supplies rendered to
7 the beneficiary.

8 (2) The term “CHAMPVA program” means the
9 Civilian Health and Medical Program of the Depart-
10 ment of Veterans Affairs under section 1781 of title
11 38, United States Code, and Part 17 of title 38,
12 Code of Federal Regulations.