

JANUARY 30, 2019

**RULES COMMITTEE PRINT 116-3**  
**TEXT OF H.R. 840, THE VETERANS' ACCESS TO**  
**CHILDCARE ACT**

[Showing the text of H.R. 840 as introduced]

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2       This Act may be cited as the “Veterans’ Access to  
3 Child Care Act”.

4 **SEC. 2. CHILD CARE ASSISTANCE FOR VETERANS RECEIV-**  
5 **ING MENTAL HEALTH CARE AND OTHER IN-**  
6 **TENSIVE HEALTH CARE SERVICES PROVIDED**  
7 **BY THE DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AF-**  
8 **FAIRS.**

9       (a) IN GENERAL.—Subchapter III of chapter 17 of  
10 title 38, United States Code, is amended by adding at the  
11 end the following new section:

12 **“§ 1730D. Child care assistance for veterans receiving**  
13 **mental health care and other intensive**  
14 **health care services**

15       “(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall provide child  
16 care assistance to an eligible veteran for any period that  
17 the veteran—

1           “(1) receives covered health care services at a  
2           facility of the Department; and

3           “(2) is required travel to and return from such  
4           facility for the receipt of such health care services.

5           “(b) CHILD CARE ASSISTANCE.—(1) Child care as-  
6           sistance provided under this section may include any of  
7           the following:

8           “(A) A stipend for the payment of child care of-  
9           fered by a licensed child care center (either directly  
10          or through a voucher program) which shall be, to  
11          the extent practicable, modeled after the Depart-  
12          ment of Veterans Affairs Child Care Subsidy Pro-  
13          gram established pursuant to section 590 of title 40.

14          “(B) Direct provision of child care at an on-site  
15          facility of the Department.

16          “(C) A payment made directly to a private child  
17          care agency.

18          “(D) A collaboration with a facility or program  
19          of another Federal department or agency.

20          “(E) Such other form of assistance as the Sec-  
21          retary considers appropriate.

22          “(2) In the case that child care assistance under this  
23          section is provided as a stipend under paragraph (1)(A),  
24          such stipend shall cover the full cost of such child care.

25          “(c) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

1           “(1) The term ‘eligible veteran’ means a vet-  
2           eran who—

3                   “(A) is the primary caretaker of a child or  
4           children; and

5                   “(B) is—

6                           “(i) receiving covered health care serv-  
7           ices from the Department; or

8                           “(ii) in need of covered health care  
9           services, and but for lack of child care  
10          services, would receive such covered health  
11          care services from the Department.

12           “(2) The term ‘covered health care services’  
13          means—

14                   “(A) regular mental health care services;

15                   “(B) intensive mental health care services;

16                   or

17                   “(C) such other intensive health care serv-  
18          ices that the Secretary determines that provi-  
19          sion of assistance to the veteran to obtain child  
20          care would improve access to such health care  
21          services by the veteran.”.

22          (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections  
23          at the beginning of such chapter is amended by inserting  
24          after the item relating to section 1730C the following new  
25          item:

“1730D. Child care assistance for veterans receiving mental health care and other intensive health care services.”.

