

Union Calendar No.

116TH CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

H. R. 4908

[Report No. 116-]

To amend title 38, United States Code, to prohibit the collection of a health care copayment by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs from a veteran who is a member of an Indian tribe.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

OCTOBER 29, 2019

Mr. GALLEGRO (for himself, Mr. COOK, Ms. HAALAND, Mr. COLE, Mr. KHANNA, and Mr. GRIJALVA) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs

SEPTEMBER --, 2020

Reported with an amendment, committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union, and ordered to be printed

[Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert the part printed in italics]

[For text of introduced bill, see copy of bill as introduced on October 29, 2019]

A BILL

To amend title 38, United States Code, to prohibit the collection of a health care copayment by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs from a veteran who is a member of an Indian tribe.

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 “Native American Vet-*
5 *eran Parity in Access to Care Today Act” or “Native Amer-*
6 *ican PACT Act”.*

7 **SEC. 2. PROHIBITION ON COLLECTION OF A HEALTH CARE**
8 **COPAYMENT BY THE SECRETARY OF VET-**
9 **ERANS AFFAIRS FROM A VETERAN WHO IS A**
10 **MEMBER OF AN INDIAN TRIBE.**

11 *(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 1730A of title 38, United*
12 *States Code, is amended—*

13 *(1) in the heading, by striking “**catastroph-***
14 ***ically disabled**” and inserting “**certain**”;*

15 *(2) by inserting “(a) PROHIBITION.—” before*
16 *“Notwithstanding”;*

17 *(3) by striking “a veteran who is catastroph-*
18 *ically disabled, as defined by the Secretary,” and in-*
19 *serting “a covered veteran”; and*

20 *(4) by adding at the end the following new sub-*
21 *section:*

22 *“(b) COVERED VETERAN DEFINED.—In this section,*
23 *the term ‘covered veteran’ means a veteran who—*

24 *“(1) is catastrophically disabled, as defined by*
25 *the Secretary; or*

1 “(2) is an Indian or urban Indian, as those
2 terms are defined in section 4 of the Indian Health
3 Care Improvement Act (Public Law 94–437; 25
4 U.S.C. 1603).”.

5 (b) *TECHNICAL AMENDMENT.*—The table of sections at
6 the beginning of chapter 17 of such title is amended by
7 striking the item relating to section 1730A and inserting
8 the following:

 “1730A. Prohibition on collection of copayments from certain veterans.”.

9 (c) *DELAYED EFFECTIVE DATE.*—The amendments
10 made by this section shall take effect on the day that is
11 one year after the date of the enactment of this Act.