AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE
TO H.R. 5693
OFFERED BY MR. HIGGINS OF LOUISOIANA

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

1 SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.
2 This Act may be cited as the “Long-Term Care Vete-
3 rans Choice Act”.
4 SEC. 2. SECRETARY OF VETERANS AFFAIRS CONTRACT AU-
5 THRITY FOR PLACEMENT OF VETERANS IN
6 NON-DEPARTMENT MEDICAL FOSTER HOMES.
7 (a) AUTHORITY.—Section 1720 of title 38, United
8 States Code, is amended by adding at the end the fol-
9 lowing new subsection:
10 “(h)(1) During the three-year period beginning on
11 October 1, 2019, and subject to paragraph (2), at the re-
12 quest of a veteran for whom the Secretary is required to
13 provide nursing home care under section 1710A of this
14 title, the Secretary may place the veteran in a medical fos-
15 ter home that meets Department standards, at the ex-
16 pense of the United States, pursuant to a contract, agree-
17 ment, or other arrangement entered into between the Sec-
18 retary and the medical foster home for such purpose. A
veteran who is placed in a medical foster home under this
subsection shall agree, as a condition of such placement,
to accept home health services furnished by the Secretary
under section 1717 of this title.

“(2) In any year, not more than a daily average of
900 veterans placed in a medical foster home, whether
placed before or after the date of the enactment of this
subsection, may have their care covered at the expense of
the United States under subsection (a).

“(3) In this subsection, the term ‘medical foster
home’ means a home designed to provide non-institutional,
long-term, supportive care for veterans who are unable to
live independently and prefer a family setting.”.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—Subsection (h) of title 38,
United States Code, as added by subsection (a), shall take
effect on October 1, 2019.