

116TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2972

To direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to improve the communications of the Department of Veterans Affairs relating to services available for women veterans, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 23, 2019

Mr. BRINDISI (for himself and Mrs. WALORSKI) introduced the following bill;
which was referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs

A BILL

To direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to improve the communications of the Department of Veterans Affairs relating to services available for women veterans, 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. EXPANSION OF CAPABILITIES OF WOMEN VET-**
4 **ERANS CALL CENTER TO INCLUDE TEXT MES-**
5 **SAGING.**

6 The Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall expand the
7 capabilities of the Women Veterans Call Center of the De-

1 partment of Veterans Affairs to include a text messaging
2 capability.

3 **SEC. 2. REQUIREMENT FOR DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS**
4 **AFFAIRS INTERNET WEBSITE TO PROVIDE IN-**
5 **FORMATION ON SERVICES AVAILABLE TO**
6 **WOMEN VETERANS.**

7 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Veterans Affairs
8 shall survey the internet websites and information re-
9 sources of the Department of Veterans Affairs in effect
10 on the day before the date of the enactment of this Act
11 and publish an internet website that serves as a central-
12 ized source for the provision to women veterans of infor-
13 mation about the benefits and services available to them
14 under laws administered by the Secretary.

15 (b) ELEMENTS.—The internet website published
16 under subsection (a) shall provide to women veterans in-
17 formation regarding all of the services available in the dis-
18 trict in which that the veteran is seeking such services,
19 including, with respect to each medical center and commu-
20 nity-based outpatient clinic in the applicable Veterans In-
21 tegrated Service Network—

22 (1) the name and contact information of each
23 women’s health coordinator;

24 (2) a list of appropriate staff for other benefits
25 available from the Veterans Benefits Administration,

1 the National Cemetery Administration, and such
2 other entities as the Secretary considers appropriate;
3 and

4 (3) such other information as the Secretary
5 considers appropriate.

6 (c) UPDATED INFORMATION.—The Secretary shall
7 ensure that the information described in subsection (b)
8 that is published on the internet website required by sub-
9 section (a) is updated not less frequently than once every
10 90 days.

11 (d) OUTREACH.—In carrying out this section, the
12 Secretary shall ensure that the outreach conducted under
13 section 1720F(i) of title 38, United States Code, includes
14 information regarding the internet website required by
15 subsection (a).

16 (e) DERIVATION OF FUNDS.—Amounts used by the
17 Secretary to carry out this section shall be derived from
18 amounts made available to the Secretary to publish inter-
19 net websites of the Department.

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