

Union Calendar No. 291

115TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2601

[Report No. 115–395]

To amend the Veterans Access, Choice, and Accountability Act of 2014 to improve the access of veterans to organ transplants, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 23, 2017

Mr. DUNN (for himself, Mr. CORREA, Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania, Mr. BANKS of Indiana, Miss GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN of Puerto Rico, Mr. RUTHERFORD, Mrs. RADEWAGEN, Mr. POLIQUIN, Mr. GOSAR, Mr. BOST, Mr. BACON, Mr. ROYCE of California, Mr. GALLAGHER, Mr. ROSS, Mr. BILIRAKIS, Mr. COSTELLO of Pennsylvania, Mr. SABLAN, Mr. BERGMAN, Mr. HUDSON, and Mr. ARRINGTON) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs

NOVEMBER 7, 2017

Additional sponsors: Mr. YOUNG of Iowa, Mr. JODY B. HICE of Georgia, Mr. JONES, Mr. KING of New York, Mr. HIGGINS of Louisiana, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, Mrs. LOVE, Mr. THOMAS J. ROONEY of Florida, Mr. WEBSTER of Florida, Mr. YOHO, Mr. FRANCIS ROONEY of Florida, Mr. GAETZ, and Mr. MESSER

NOVEMBER 7, 2017

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 italic]

[For text of introduced bill, see copy of bill as introduced on May 23, 2017]

A BILL

To amend the Veterans Access, Choice, and Accountability Act of 2014 to improve the access of veterans to organ transplants, 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 “Veterans Increased*
5 *Choice for Transplanted Organs and Recovery Act of 2017”*
6 *or the “VICTOR Act of 2017”.*

7 **SEC. 2. ORGAN TRANSPLANTS UNDER THE VETERANS**
8 **CHOICE PROGRAM.**

9 *Section 101(b)(2) of the Veterans Access, Choice, and*
10 *Accountability Act of 2014 (Public Law 113–146; 38 U.S.C.*
11 *1701 note) is amended—*

12 *(1) in subparagraph (C)(ii), by striking “or”;*

13 *(2) in subparagraph (D)(ii)(II)(dd), by striking*
14 *the period and inserting “; or”; and*

15 *(3) by adding at the end the following new sub-*
16 *paragraph:*

17 *“(E)(i) requires an organ or bone marrow*
18 *transplant; and*

19 *“(ii)(I) has, in the opinion of the primary*
20 *health care provider of the veteran, a medically*
21 *compelling reason to travel outside the region of*
22 *the Organ Procurement and Transplantation*
23 *Network, established under section 372 of the Na-*
24 *tional Organ Transplantation Act (Public Law*
25 *98–507; 42 U.S.C. 274), in which the veteran re-*

1 *sides to receive such transplant at a medical fa-*
2 *cility of the Department; or*

3 “(II) *faces an unusual or excessive burden*
4 *in receiving such transplant at a medical facil-*
5 *ity of the Department, including—*

6 “(aa) *geographical challenges;*

7 “(bb) *environmental factors, including*
8 *roads that are not accessible to the general*
9 *public, traffic, or hazardous weather;*

10 “(cc) *a medical condition of the vet-*
11 *eran that affects the ability to travel; or*

12 “(dd) *other factors the Secretary deter-*
13 *mines appropriate, including the preference*
14 *of the veteran to receive such transplant at*
15 *a non-Department facility.”.*

16 **SEC. 3. EFFECTIVE DATE.**

17 *The amendments made by this Act shall take effect on*
18 *the later of—*

19 (1) *October 1, 2018; and*

20 (2) *the date of the enactment of this Act.*

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