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119TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 10648

To direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to furnish inpatient treatment under the Veterans Community Care Program for a mental health condition, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

OCTOBER 1, 2026

Ms. BOEBERT introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs

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A BILL

To direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to furnish inpatient treatment under the Veterans Community Care Program for a mental health condition, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the ''Veterans' Mental Health Access Act''.

SEC. 2. FURNISHING OF INPATIENT TREATMENT FOR A MENTAL HEALTH CONDITION UNDER THE VETERANS COMMUNITY CARE PROGRAM.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall furnish covered care to a covered veteran.

(b) TIMELINE.—The Secretary shall furnish covered care under subsection (a) not later than 24 hours after the covered veteran requests covered care or a health care provider prescribes covered care to the covered veteran.

(c) REPORT.—Every six months, the Secretary shall publish on a website of the Department of Veterans Affairs a report regarding the wait time for a veteran seeking covered care furnished—

(1) in a medical center of the Department of Veterans Affairs; or

(2) under the Veterans Community Care Program.

(d) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) The term ''covered care'' means inpatient treatment for a mental health condition, including post-traumatic stress disorder, depression, or substance abuse, furnished—

(A) in a medical center of the Department of Veterans Affairs; or

(B) under the Veterans Community Care Program.

(2) The term ''covered facility'' means, with respect to a covered veteran, the medical center or hospital of the Department of Veterans Affairs—

(A) that is closest to the residence of the covered veteran; and

(B) where the Secretary furnishes covered care sought by the covered veteran.

(3) The term ''covered veteran'' means a veteran described in section 1703(b) of title 38, United States Code.

(4) The term ''Veterans Community Care Program'' means the program established by section 1703(a) of title 38, United States Code.

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