

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1644

To amend title 38, United States Code, to eliminate copayments by the Department of Veterans Affairs for medicines relating to preventive health services, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 27, 2025

Ms. UNDERWOOD (for herself, Mr. MOULTON, Mrs. HAYES, and Ms. NORTON) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs

A BILL

To amend title 38, United States Code, to eliminate copayments by the Department of Veterans Affairs for medicines relating to preventive health services, 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 “Copay Fairness for
5 Veterans Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. IMPROVEMENT TO PREVENTIVE HEALTH SERVICES**
2 **FURNISHED BY DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS**
3 **AFFAIRS.**

4 (a) **ELIMINATION OF MEDICATION COPAYMENTS.**—
5 Section 1722A(a)(3) of title 38, United States Code, is
6 amended—

- 7 (1) in subparagraph (C), by striking “or”;
- 8 (2) in subparagraph (D), by striking the period
9 at the end and inserting “; or”; and
- 10 (3) by adding at the end the following new sub-
11 paragraph:

12 “(E) to medication that is or is part of a pre-
13 ventive health service.”.

14 (b) **ELIMINATION OF HOSPITAL CARE AND MEDICAL**
15 **SERVICES COPAYMENTS.**—Section 1710 of such title is
16 amended—

- 17 (1) in subsection (f)—
- 18 (A) by redesignating paragraph (5) as
19 paragraph (6); and
- 20 (B) by inserting after paragraph (4) the
21 following new paragraph (5):

22 “(5) A veteran shall not be liable to the United States
23 under this subsection for any amounts for preventive
24 health services.”; and

- 25 (2) in subsection (g)(3), by adding at the end
26 the following new subparagraph:

1 “(C) Preventive health services.”.

2 (e) DEFINITION.—Section 1701(9) of such title is
3 amended—

4 (1) in subparagraph (K), by striking “; and”
5 and inserting a semicolon;

6 (2) by redesignating subparagraph (L) as sub-
7 paragraph (O); and

8 (3) by inserting after subparagraph (K) the fol-
9 lowing new subparagraphs:

10 “(L) evidence-based items or services that have
11 in effect a rating of ‘A’ or ‘B’ in the current rec-
12 ommendations of the United States Preventive Serv-
13 ices Task Force;

14 “(M) immunizations that have in effect a rec-
15 ommendation from the Advisory Committee on Im-
16 munization Practices of the Centers for Disease
17 Control and Prevention with respect to the indi-
18 vidual involved;

19 “(N) with respect to services for women—

20 “(i) the preventive care, screenings, and
21 contraceptives provided for in the Health Re-
22 sources and Services Administration Preventive
23 Services Guidelines in effect as of December 30,
24 2022; and

1 “(ii) any contraceptive approved, granted,
2 or cleared by the Food and Drug Administra-
3 tion, any related contraceptive care, and any re-
4 lated services; and”.

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