

119TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 1970

To amend title 38, United States Code, to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to reimburse State homes for the cost of, or to furnish to State homes, certain costly medications provided to veterans who receive nursing home care in such State homes, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 10, 2025

Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS (for herself and Mr. PAPPAS) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs

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## A BILL

To amend title 38, United States Code, to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to reimburse State homes for the cost of, or to furnish to State homes, certain costly medications provided to veterans who receive nursing home care in such State homes, 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 “Providing Veterans  
5 Essential Medications Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. REIMBURSEMENT OF A STATE HOME FOR HIGH**  
2 **COST MEDICATIONS.**

3 Section 1745(a)(3) of title 38, United States Code,  
4 is amended—

5 (1) by striking “Payment” and inserting “(A)  
6 Subject to subparagraph (B), payment”; and

7 (2) by adding at the end the following new sub-  
8 paragraphs:

9 “(B) In addition to payment described in subpara-  
10 graph (A), the Secretary shall, at the election of a covered  
11 State home—

12 “(i) reimburse the covered State home for a  
13 costly medication; or

14 “(ii) furnish such costly medication to the cov-  
15 ered State home.

16 “(C) In this paragraph:

17 “(i) The term ‘costly medication’ means a drug  
18 or medicine for which the average wholesale price for  
19 one month’s supply, plus a 3 percent transaction fee,  
20 exceeds 8.5 percent of the payment under subpara-  
21 graph (A) by the Secretary to a covered State home  
22 for care provided to the veteran who receives such  
23 costly medication during such month.

24 “(ii) The term ‘covered State home’ means a  
25 State home that, in the course of nursing home care  
26 provided pursuant to a contract (or agreement)

1 under paragraph (1), provides to a veteran a costly  
2 medication.”.

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