

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 3400

AN ACT

To amend title 38, United States Code, to authorize the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to assign physicians of the Department of Veterans Affairs to temporarily serve as traveling physicians in the territories and possessions of the United States, 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,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “Territorial Response
3 and Access to Veterans’ Essential Lifecare Act” or the
4 “TRAVEL Act of 2025”.

5 **SEC. 2. DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS ASSIGNMENT OF**
6 **TRAVELING PHYSICIANS TO SERVE TERRI-**
7 **TORIES AND POSSESSIONS.**

8 (a) IN GENERAL.—Subchapter I of chapter 74 of title
9 38, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end
10 the following new section:

11 **“§ 7415. Traveling physicians**

12 “(a) IN GENERAL.—(1) The Secretary may assign a
13 physician appointed under section 7401 or section 7431
14 of this title to serve as a traveling physician for a period
15 of not more than one year at a time. A physician assigned
16 to serve as a traveling physician under this section may
17 be assigned to provide health care to veterans residing in
18 American Samoa, Guam, the Commonwealth of the North-
19 ern Mariana Islands, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico,
20 the Virgin Islands of the United States, or any other terri-
21 tory or possession of the United States at Department fa-
22 cilities or other approved facilities located in such territory
23 or possession.

24 “(2) The Secretary may assign multiple physicians
25 to serve as traveling physicians under this section and may

1 assign each such physician to serve in a specific territory
2 or possession.

3 “(b) COORDINATION OF CARE.—In providing care
4 under this section, traveling physicians shall coordinate
5 with non-Department medical providers to the extent
6 practicable and necessary to ensure high quality and co-
7 ordinated care for veterans receiving hospital care and
8 medical services.

9 “(c) PAY.—In addition to pay under section 7431 of
10 this title, the Secretary shall provide a relocation or reten-
11 tion bonus to traveling physicians under this section. Such
12 relocation or retention bonus shall be substantially similar
13 to a relocation or retention bonus offered under section
14 7410(a) of this title, as the Secretary considers appro-
15 priate.”.

16 (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections
17 at the beginning of such chapter is amended by inserting
18 after the item relating to section 7414 the following new
19 item:

“7415. Traveling physicians.”.

20 (c) TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—
21 Title 38, United States Code, is further amended as fol-
22 lows:

23 (1) In section 7410(a)(1), by—

24 (A) by striking “retention allowances” and
25 inserting “retention bonuses”; and

1 (B) by striking the second comma after
2 “section 7401(1) of this title”; and

3 (2) In section 7431(e)(5)(B), by striking “re-
4 tention allowances” and inserting “retention bo-
5 nuses”.

6 **SEC. 3. EXTENSION OF CERTAIN LIMITS ON PAYMENTS OF**
7 **PENSION.**

8 Section 5503(d)(7) of title 38, United States Code,
9 is amended by striking “November 30, 2031” and insert-
10 ing “December 31, 2032”.

Passed the House of Representatives September 15,
2025.

Attest:

Clerk.

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