

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 2134

To amend title 38, United States Code, to ensure that veterans in each of the 48 contiguous States are able to receive services in at least one full-service hospital of the Veterans Health Administration in the State or receive comparable services provided by contract in the State.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JUNE 18, 2025

Mrs. SHAHEEN introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs

A BILL

To amend title 38, United States Code, to ensure that veterans in each of the 48 contiguous States are able to receive services in at least one full-service hospital of the Veterans Health Administration in the State or receive comparable services provided by contract in the State.

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 Full-Service
5 Care and Access Act of 2025”.

1 **SEC. 2. AVAILABILITY OF FULL-SERVICE HOSPITAL OF THE**
2 **VETERANS HEALTH ADMINISTRATION IN**
3 **CERTAIN STATES OR PROVISION OF COM-**
4 **PARABLE SERVICES THROUGH CONTRACT**
5 **WITH OTHER HEALTH CARE PROVIDERS IN**
6 **THE STATE.**

7 (a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 17 of title 38, United
8 States Code, is amended by inserting after section 1716
9 the following new section:

10 **“§ 1716A. Access to full-service hospitals in certain**
11 **States or comparable services through**
12 **contract**

13 “(a) REQUIREMENT.—With respect to each of the 48
14 contiguous States, the Secretary shall ensure that veterans
15 in the State eligible for hospital care and medical services
16 under section 1710 of this title may receive such hospital
17 care and medical services at not fewer than one full-service
18 hospital of the Veterans Health Administration located
19 within the geographic boundaries of the State.

20 “(b) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in sub-
21 section (a) shall be construed to restrict the ability of the
22 Secretary to provide enhanced care to an eligible veteran
23 who resides in one State in a hospital of the Veterans
24 Health Administration in another State.”.

25 (b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS TO VETERANS COM-
26 MUNITY CARE PROGRAM.—Section 1703(d)(1) of such

1 title is amended in subparagraph (B) by inserting “as of
2 the date of the enactment of the Veterans Full-Service
3 Care and Access Act of 2025” before the semicolon at the
4 end.

5 (c) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections
6 at the beginning of such chapter is amended by inserting
7 after the item relating to section 1716 the following new
8 item:

“1716A. Access to full-service hospitals in certain States or comparable services
through contract.”.

9 (d) REPORT ON IMPLEMENTATION.—Not later than
10 one year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the
11 Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall submit to Congress a
12 report describing the extent to which the Secretary has
13 complied with the requirement imposed by section 1716A
14 of title 38, United States Code, as added by subsection
15 (a), including the effect of such requirement on improving
16 the quality and standards of care provided to veterans.

○