

116TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 3643

To amend title 38, United States Code, to authorize certain postgraduate health care employees and health professions trainees of the Department of Veterans Affairs to provide treatment via telemedicine, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MAY 7, 2020

Mrs. LOEFFLER (for herself and Ms. SINEMA) 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 authorize certain postgraduate health care employees and health professions trainees of the Department of Veterans Affairs to provide treatment via telemedicine, 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 “VA Mission Telehealth
5 Clarification Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. MODIFICATION OF LICENSURE REQUIREMENTS**
2 **FOR HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONALS PRO-**
3 **VIDING TREATMENT VIA TELEMEDICINE.**

4 Section 1730C(b) of title 38, United States Code, is
5 amended to read as follows:

6 “(b) COVERED HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONALS.—
7 For purposes of this section, a covered health care profes-
8 sional is any of the following individuals:

9 “(1) A health care professional who—

10 “(A) is an employee of the Department ap-
11 pointed under section 7306, 7401, 7405, 7406,
12 or 7408 of this title or title 5;

13 “(B) is authorized by the Secretary to pro-
14 vide health care under this chapter;

15 “(C) is required to adhere to all standards
16 for quality relating to the provision of health
17 care in accordance with applicable policies of
18 the Department; and

19 “(D)(i) has an active, current, full, and
20 unrestricted license, registration, or certification
21 in a State to practice the health care profession
22 of the health care professional; or

23 “(ii) with respect to a health care profes-
24 sion listed under section 7402(b) of this title,
25 has the qualifications for such profession as set
26 forth by the Secretary.

1 “(2) A postgraduate health care employee
2 who—

3 “(A) is appointed under section 7401(1),
4 7401(3), or 7405 of this title or title 5 for any
5 category of personnel described in paragraph
6 (1) or (3) of section 7401 of this title;

7 “(B) must obtain an active, current, full,
8 and unrestricted license, registration, or certifi-
9 cation or meet qualification standards set forth
10 by the Secretary within a specified time frame;
11 and

12 “(C) is under the clinical supervision of a
13 health care professional described in paragraph
14 (1).

15 “(3) A health professions trainee who—

16 “(A) is appointed under section 7405 or
17 7406 of this title; and

18 “(B) is under the clinical supervision of a
19 health care professional described in paragraph
20 (1).”.

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