

116TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2931

To amend title 38, United States Code, to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to provide hospital care, medical services, and nursing home care for certain individuals discharged from service in the Armed Forces by reason of sexual orientation or gender identity, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 22, 2019

Mr. PAPPAS (for himself, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. BROWN of Maryland, Miss RICE of New York, Ms. SPEIER, Mr. CISNEROS, and Mr. LEVIN of California) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs

A BILL

To amend title 38, United States Code, to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to provide hospital care, medical services, and nursing home care for certain individuals discharged from service in the Armed Forces by reason of sexual orientation or gender identity, 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 “Securing the Rights
3 our Veterans have Earned Act of 2019” or the “SERVE
4 Act of 2019”.

5 **SEC. 2. DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS PROVISION**
6 **OF HOSPITAL CARE, MEDICAL SERVICES, AND**
7 **NURSING HOME CARE FOR CERTAIN INDIVID-**
8 **UALS DISCHARGED FROM SERVICE IN THE**
9 **ARMED FORCES BY REASON OF SEXUAL ORI-**
10 **ENTATION OR GENDER IDENTITY.**

11 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 1710(a)(2) of title 38,
12 United States Code, is amended—

13 (1) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A),
14 by striking “any veteran—” and inserting “any indi-
15 vidual who is—”;

16 (2) in each of subparagraphs (A) through (G),
17 by inserting “a veteran” before “who”;

18 (3) in subparagraph (F), by striking “or” at
19 the end;

20 (4) in subparagraph (G), by striking the period
21 and inserting “; or”; and

22 (5) by adding at the end the following new sub-
23 paragraph:

24 “(H) a former member of the Armed Forces
25 who was discharged from service therein under con-
26 ditions other than honorable or with an entry-level

1 separation by reason of sexual orientation or gender
2 identity, including by reason of a diagnosis of gender
3 dysphoria.”.

4 (b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by
5 subsection (a) shall take effect on the date of the enact-
6 ment of this Act and apply—

7 (1) to hospital care, medical services, and nurs-
8 ing home care furnished on or after such date; and

9 (2) to an individual who is discharged from
10 service in the Armed Forces before, on, or after such
11 date.

○