

119TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 8057

To amend title 38, United States Code, to modify the rate of pay for care or services provided under the Community Care Program of the Department of Veterans Affairs based on the location at which such care or services were provided, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 24, 2026

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

A BILL

To amend title 38, United States Code, to modify the rate of pay for care or services provided under the Community Care Program of the Department of Veterans Affairs based on the location at which such care or services were provided, 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. RATES OF PAY FOR A PROVIDER OF CARE OR**
2 **SERVICES FURNISHED TO A VETERAN UNDER**
3 **THE COMMUNITY CARE PROGRAM OF THE**
4 **DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS.**

5 (a) RATES.—Section 1703(i)(1) of title 38, United
6 States Code, is amended—

7 (1) by striking “Except as provided in para-
8 graph (2),” and inserting “(A) Except as provided
9 in paragraph (2),”; and

10 (2) by adding at the end the following new sub-
11 paragraphs:

12 “(B) Not later than January 1, 2027, the Secretary
13 shall establish rates for payments to providers of care or
14 services under subparagraph (A) that are specific with re-
15 spect to the following sites of service at which the care
16 or service is actually provided (regardless of the physical
17 location of the headquarters of the provider):

18 “(i) A hospital outpatient department.

19 “(ii) An ambulatory surgical center.

20 “(iii) The office of a physician.

21 “(iv) Such other sites as the Secretary deter-
22 mines appropriate in carrying out this paragraph.

23 “(C) The Secretary shall ensure that—

24 “(i) each site specified in subparagraph (B) ob-
25 tains a National Provider Identifier under section
26 6225 of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2026

1 (Public Law 119–75) that is separate and unique
2 from such identifier for such provider; and

3 “(ii) no payment for care or services under any
4 provision in this title may be made unless the claim
5 for such payment includes the National Provider
6 Identifier for the site at which such hospital care,
7 medical services, or extended care services were fur-
8 nished.

9 “(D) In the case of covered OPD services (as defined
10 in section 1833(t)(1)(B) of the Social Security Act (42
11 U.S.C. 1395l(t)(1)(B)) that are provided on or after Janu-
12 ary 1, 2027, by a provider that is an off-campus out-
13 patient department of a provider (as defined in section
14 1833(t)(21)(B) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C.
15 1395l(t)(21(B))), disregarding clauses (ii) and (iv) thereof,
16 as if such clauses did not exist), the Secretary shall ensure
17 that such department is treated as a subpart of such pro-
18 vider and assigned a unique health identifier pursuant to
19 subparagraph (C) of this paragraph, and that such pro-
20 vider includes such identifier on any claim form it submits
21 under this subsection, and that such provider may not
22 hold a veteran liable for such item or service unless such
23 care or services are billed using the separate unique health
24 identifier established for such department under this para-
25 graph.

1 “(E) Nothing in this paragraph may be construed
2 to—

3 “(i) prevent the Secretary from determining the
4 appropriate amount of a facility fee;

5 “(ii) require the Secretary to pay, for the same
6 item or service—

7 “(I) an independent physician the same
8 amount as the Secretary would pay a hospital-
9 based physician; or

10 “(II) a hospital-based physician less than
11 the Secretary would pay an independent physi-
12 cian; or

13 “(iii) affect the authority of the Secretary
14 under paragraph (2).”.

15 (b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by
16 subsection (a) shall take effect on January 1 of the first
17 calendar year beginning after the date of the enactment
18 of this Act.

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