

113TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 1971

To direct the Secretary of Defense to provide certain TRICARE beneficiaries with the opportunity to retain access to TRICARE Prime.

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IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 14, 2013

Mr. KLINE (for himself and Mr. THORNBERRY) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Armed Services

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## A BILL

To direct the Secretary of Defense to provide certain TRICARE beneficiaries with the opportunity to retain access to TRICARE Prime.

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. FUTURE AVAILABILITY OF TRICARE PRIME**  
4 **FOR CERTAIN BENEFICIARIES ENROLLED IN**  
5 **TRICARE PRIME.**

6 Section 732 of the National Defense Authorization  
7 Act for Fiscal Year 2013 (Public Law 112–239; 126 Stat.  
8 1816) is amended—

9 (1) by redesignating subsection (b) as sub-  
10 section (c); and

1 (2) by inserting the following new subsection:

2 “(b) ACCESS TO TRICARE PRIME.—

3 “(1) ONE-TIME ELECTION.—Subject to para-  
4 graph (3), the Secretary shall ensure that each af-  
5 fected eligible beneficiary who is enrolled in  
6 TRICARE Prime as of September 30, 2013, may  
7 make a one-time election to continue such enroll-  
8 ment in TRICARE Prime, notwithstanding that a  
9 contract described in subsection (a)(2)(A) does not  
10 allow for such enrollment based on the location in  
11 which such beneficiary resides. The beneficiary may  
12 continue such enrollment in TRICARE Prime so  
13 long as the beneficiary resides in the same ZIP code  
14 as the ZIP Code in which the beneficiary resided at  
15 the time of such election.

16 “(2) ENROLLMENT IN TRICARE STANDARD.—If  
17 an affected eligible beneficiary makes the one-time  
18 election under paragraph (1), the beneficiary may  
19 thereafter elect to enroll in TRICARE Standard at  
20 any time in accordance with a contract described in  
21 subsection (a)(2)(A).

22 “(3) RESIDENCE AT TIME OF ELECTION.—An  
23 affected eligible beneficiary may not make the one-  
24 time election under paragraph (1) if, at the time of  
25 such election, the beneficiary does not reside in a

- 1 ZIP code that is in a region described in subsection
- 2 (c)(1)(B).”.

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