

116TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 5024

To amend title 38, United States Code, to expand health care coverage provided by the Department of Veterans Affairs during the transition of members of the Armed Forces from service in the Armed Forces to civilian life, and for other purposes.

---

## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NOVEMBER 8, 2019

Mr. SABLAN (for himself and Mrs. RADEWAGEN) introduced the following bill;  
which was referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs

---

## A BILL

To amend title 38, United States Code, to expand health care coverage provided by the Department of Veterans Affairs during the transition of members of the Armed Forces from service in the Armed Forces to civilian life, 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. EXPANSION OF HEALTH CARE COVERAGE FOR**  
4 **VETERANS.**

5 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 1710(a)(1) of title 38,  
6 United States Code, is amended—

1           (1) in subparagraph (A), by striking “and” at  
2           the end;

3           (2) by redesignating subparagraph (B) as sub-  
4           paragraph (C); and

5           (3) by inserting after subparagraph (A) the fol-  
6           lowing new subparagraph (B):

7           “(B) to any veteran during the one-year period  
8           following the discharge or release of the veteran  
9           from active military, naval, or air service, or from  
10          active status (as defined in section 101 of title 10);  
11          and”.

12          (b) PATIENT ENROLLMENT SYSTEM.—Section  
13          1705(c) of such title is amended by adding at the end the  
14          following new paragraph:

15          “(3) Nothing in this section shall be construed to pre-  
16          vent the Secretary from providing hospital care and med-  
17          ical services to a veteran under section 1710(a)(1)(B) of  
18          this title during the period specified in such section not-  
19          withstanding the failure of the veteran to enroll in the sys-  
20          tem of patient enrollment established by the Secretary  
21          under subsection (a).”.

22          (c) PROMOTION OF EXPANDED ELIGIBILITY.—

23                  (1) TRANSITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM.—

24                          (A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of  
25                          Labor, in consultation with the Secretary of

1 Defense and the Secretary of Veterans Affairs,  
2 shall promote to members of the Armed Forces  
3 transitioning from service in the Armed Forces  
4 to civilian life through the Transition Assist-  
5 ance Program the expanded eligibility of vet-  
6 erans for health care under the laws adminis-  
7 tered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs pur-  
8 suant to the amendments made by this section.

9 (B) TRANSITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM  
10 DEFINED.—In this paragraph, the term “Tran-  
11 sition Assistance Program” means the Transi-  
12 tion Assistance Program under sections 1142  
13 and 1144 of title 10, United States Code.

14 (2) PUBLICATION BY DEPARTMENT OF VET-  
15 ERANS AFFAIRS.—Not later than 30 days after the  
16 date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of  
17 Veterans Affairs shall publish on a website of the  
18 Department of Veterans Affairs notification of the  
19 expanded eligibility of veterans for health care under  
20 the laws administered by the Secretary pursuant to  
21 the amendments made by this section.

○