

116TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 5525

To amend title 38 and title 5, United States Code, to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs and other officials of the Department of Veterans Affairs to receive health care from the Department, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

DECEMBER 19, 2019

Mr. RICE of South Carolina introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs

A BILL

To amend title 38 and title 5, United States Code, to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs and other officials of the Department of Veterans Affairs to receive health care from the Department, 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 “Providing Account-
5 ability for Veterans Affairs Executives Act of 2019” or
6 “PAVE Act of 2019”.

1 **SEC. 2. HEALTH CARE FOR OFFICIALS OF THE DEPART-**
2 **MENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS.**

3 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 1710 of title 38, United
4 States Code, is amended—

5 (1) in subsection (a)(3)—

6 (A) by inserting “(A)” before “In”;

7 (B) by inserting “or in the case of an offi-
8 cial of the Department listed in subparagraph
9 (B),” before “the Secretary”; and

10 (C) by adding at the end the following new
11 subparagraph:

12 “(B) As a condition of office and employment,
13 and for the duration of such term of office or em-
14 ployment, each of the following officials of the De-
15 partment may not receive any hospital care or med-
16 ical services (other than emergency medical services)
17 except under this section:

18 “(i) The Secretary.

19 “(ii) The Deputy Secretary.

20 “(iii) The Under Secretary for Health.

21 “(iv) The Under Secretary for Benefits.

22 “(v) The Under Secretary for Memorial
23 Affairs.

24 “(vi) Each Assistant Secretary, includ-
25 ing—

1 “(I) the Assistant Secretary for Man-
2 agement;

3 “(II) the Assistant Secretary for
4 Human Resources and Administration;

5 “(III) the Assistant Secretary for
6 Public and Intergovernmental Affairs; and

7 “(IV) the Assistant Secretary for Op-
8 erations, Security, and Preparedness.

9 “(vii) Each Deputy Assistant Secretary.

10 “(viii) The Chief Financial Officer.

11 “(ix) The Chief Information Officer.

12 “(x) The General Counsel.

13 “(xi) The Inspector General.

14 “(xii) The Director of Construction and
15 Facilities Management.

16 “(xiii) The Chief of Staff.

17 “(xiv) The Chairman of the Board of Vet-
18 erans’ Appeals.

19 “(xv) The Vice Chairman of the Board of
20 Veterans’ Appeals.”;

21 (2) in subsection (f), by inserting “or official of
22 the Department” after “veteran” each place it ap-
23 pears; and

1 (3) in subsection (g), by inserting “or official of
2 the Department” after “veteran” each place it ap-
3 pears.

4 (b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

5 (1) TITLE 38.—Section 1705(a) of title 38,
6 United States Code, is amended—

7 (A) by inserting “and officials of the De-
8 partment” after “veterans”; and

9 (B) in paragraph (8) by inserting “and of-
10 ficials of the Department” after “veterans”.

11 (2) TITLE 5.—Section 8901(1) of title 5,
12 United States Code, is amended in the matter fol-
13 lowing subparagraph (J)—

14 (A) by striking “or” at the end of clause
15 (iii);

16 (B) by adding “or” after the semicolon at
17 the end of clause (iv); and

18 (C) by adding at the end the following new
19 clause:

20 “(v) an official of the Department of Vet-
21 erans Affairs listed in section 1710(a)(3)(B) of
22 title 38;”.

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