

117TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# H. R. 8023

To amend titles 10 and 37, United States Code, to establish special pay and allowances for members of the Armed Forces assigned to cold weather operations, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 9, 2022

Ms. SPEIER introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Armed Services

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## A BILL

To amend titles 10 and 37, United States Code, to establish special pay and allowances for members of the Armed Forces assigned to cold weather operations, 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 “Don Young Arctic  
5 Warrior Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. SPECIAL PAY AND ALLOWANCES FOR MEMBERS OF**  
2 **THE ARMED FORCES ASSIGNED TO COLD**  
3 **WEATHER OPERATIONS.**

4 (a) ALLOWANCE FOR BROADBAND.—

5 (1) ESTABLISHMENT.—Chapter 7 of title 37,  
6 United States Code, is amended by inserting after  
7 section 425 the following new section:

8 **“§ 426. Allowance for broadband for certain members**  
9 **of the armed forces assigned to perma-**  
10 **nent duty stations in Alaska**

11 “(a) ALLOWANCE AUTHORIZED.—The Secretary con-  
12 cerned shall pay, to a covered member, a monthly allow-  
13 ance for broadband.

14 “(b) AMOUNT.—The monthly allowance to a covered  
15 member under this section shall be—

16 “(1) \$125 during calendar year 2023; and

17 “(2) in subsequent calendar years, an amount  
18 determined by the Secretary of Defense based on the  
19 difference between the average costs of unlimited  
20 broadband plans in Alaska and in the continental  
21 United States.

22 “(c) SUNSET.—No allowance may be paid under this  
23 section after December 31, 2028.

24 “(d) COVERED MEMBER DEFINED.—In this section,  
25 the term ‘covered member’ means a member of the armed

1 forces assigned to a permanent duty station in Alaska who  
 2 is—

3 “(1) an officer in a grade below O–3; or

4 “(2) an enlisted member in a grade below E–  
 5 6.”.

6 (2) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sec-  
 7 tions at the beginning of such chapter is amended  
 8 by inserting after the item relating to section 425  
 9 the following:

“426. Allowance for broadband for certain members of the armed forces as-  
 signed to permanent duty stations in Alaska.”.

10 (3) EFFECTIVE DATE.—Section 426 of such  
 11 title, as added by this subsection, shall take effect on  
 12 the day the Secretary of Defense prescribes regula-  
 13 tions under paragraph (4).

14 (4) REGULATIONS.—Not later than six months  
 15 after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Sec-  
 16 retary of Defense shall prescribe regulations to carry  
 17 out section 426 of such title, as added by this sub-  
 18 section.

19 (5) REPORT.—Not later than December 31,  
 20 2027, the Secretary of Defense shall submit to the  
 21 Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and  
 22 House of Representatives a report containing—

1 (A) the evaluation of the Secretary of the  
2 allowance under section 426 of such title, as  
3 added by this subsection; and

4 (B) any recommendation of the Secretary  
5 regarding whether such allowance should be  
6 amended, extended, or made permanent.

7 (b) SPECIAL PAY.—

8 (1) ESTABLISHMENT.—Not later than six  
9 months after the date of the enactment of this Act,  
10 the Secretary of Defense shall prescribe regulations  
11 under section 353 of title 37, United States Code,  
12 for the payment of special monthly pay (to be known  
13 as “arctic pay”) to a member of the Armed  
14 Forces—

15 (A) assigned to perform cold weather oper-  
16 ations; or

17 (B) required to maintain proficiency  
18 through frequent operations in cold weather.

19 (2) AMOUNT OF PAY.—Arctic pay shall equal  
20 \$300 per month.

21 (3) RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER PAY OR ALLOW-  
22 ANCES.—Arctic pay is in addition to any other pay  
23 or allowance to which a member is entitled.

24 (c) TRAVEL AND TRANSPORTATION ALLOWANCE.—

1           (1) ENTITLEMENT.—Not later than 90 days  
2           after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Sec-  
3           retary of Defense shall prescribe regulations and  
4           guidance that entitle a covered member of the  
5           Armed Forces to a one-time allowance for air travel  
6           for the covered member and dependents of such cov-  
7           ered member.

8           (2) AMOUNTS.—If the air travel is to the per-  
9           manent residence of the covered member, the  
10          amount of the allowance shall equal the total costs  
11          of such air travel. If such air travel is to another  
12          destination within the United States, amount of the  
13          allowance shall be equal to the lesser of the fol-  
14          lowing:

15                (A) The rate for such air travel under the  
16                City Pair Program of the General Services Ad-  
17                ministration (or successor program) in effect at  
18                the time of such air travel.

19                (B) The actual costs of such air travel.

20          (3) TIMING.—Air travel reimbursed under such  
21          regulation may not commence later than 30 months  
22          after the covered member is assigned to a permanent  
23          duty station in Alaska.

24          (4) ADDITIONAL AUTHORIZATION.—The Sec-  
25          retary concerned may authorize an additional allow-

1       ance for a covered member who has used the allow-  
2       ance to which such member is entitled under this  
3       subsection.

4               (5) COVERED MEMBER DEFINED.—In this sub-  
5       section, the term “covered member” has the mean-  
6       ing given such term in section 426 of title 37,  
7       United States Code, as added by subsection (a).

8   **SEC. 3. PILOT PROGRAM ON CAR SHARING ON MILITARY**  
9               **INSTALLATIONS IN ALASKA.**

10       (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—Not later than 180 days after  
11       the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of  
12       Defense shall seek to carry out a pilot program to allow  
13       car sharing on military installations in Alaska.

14       (b) PROGRAM ELEMENTS.—To carry out a pilot pro-  
15       gram under this section, the Secretary shall take steps in-  
16       cluding the following:

17               (1) Seek to enter into an agreement with an en-  
18       tity that—

19                       (A) provides car sharing services; and

20                       (B) is capable of serving all military instal-  
21       lations in Alaska.

22       (2) Provide to members assigned to military in-  
23       stallations in Alaska the resources the Secretary de-  
24       termines necessary to participate in such pilot pro-  
25       gram.

1           (3) Promote such pilot program to such mem-  
2       bers.

3       (c) IMPLEMENTATION PLAN.—Not later than 90  
4       days after the date the Secretary enters into an agreement  
5       under subsection (b)(1), the Secretary shall submit to the  
6       congressional defense committees a plan to carry out the  
7       pilot program.

8       (d) DURATION.—A pilot program under this section  
9       shall terminate two years after the Secretary commences  
10      such pilot program.

11      (e) REPORT.—Upon the termination of a pilot pro-  
12      gram under this section, the Secretary of Defense shall  
13      submit to the congressional defense committees a report  
14      containing the following information:

15           (1) The number of individuals who used car  
16      sharing services offered pursuant to the pilot pro-  
17      gram.

18           (2) The cost to the United States of the pilot  
19      program.

20           (3) An analysis of the effect of the pilot pro-  
21      gram on mental health and community connected-  
22      ness of members described in subsection (b)(2).

23           (4) Other information the Secretary determines  
24      appropriate.

1 (f) MILITARY INSTALLATION DEFINED.—In this sec-  
 2 tion, the term “military installation” has the meaning  
 3 given such term in section 2801 of title 10, United States  
 4 Code.

5 **SEC. 4. CLARIFICATION REGARDING LICENSURE REQUIRE-**  
 6 **MENTS FOR PROVISION OF NON-MEDICAL**  
 7 **COUNSELING SERVICES BY CERTAIN**  
 8 **HEALTH-CARE PROFESSIONALS.**

9 Section 1094 of title 10, United States Code is  
 10 amended—

11 (1) in subsection (d)(1), by inserting “, includ-  
 12 ing by providing non-medical counseling services in  
 13 connection with such practice,” after “the health  
 14 profession or professions of the health-care profes-  
 15 sional”; and

16 (2) in subsection (e), by adding at the end the  
 17 following new paragraph:

18 “(3) The term ‘non-medical counseling’—

19 “(A) means short-term, non-therapeutic  
 20 counseling that is not an appropriate substitute  
 21 for individuals in need of clinical therapy; and

22 “(B) includes counseling that is supportive  
 23 in nature and addresses issues such as general  
 24 conditions of living, life skills, improving rela-  
 25 tionships at home and at work, stress manage-



ment, adjustment issues (such as those related to returning from a deployment), marital problems, parenting, and grief and loss.”.

**SEC. 5. IMPROVEMENTS RELATING TO BEHAVIORAL  
HEALTH CARE AVAILABLE UNDER MILITARY  
HEALTH SYSTEM.**

(a) EXPANSION OF CERTAIN BEHAVIORAL HEALTH PROGRAMS AT THE UNIFORMED SERVICES UNIVERSITY OF THE HEALTH SCIENCES.—

(1) ESTABLISHMENT OF GRADUATE PROGRAMS.—The Secretary of Defense shall establish graduate degree-granting programs in counseling and social work at the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences.

(2) EXPANSION OF CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGY GRADUATE PROGRAM.—The Secretary of Defense shall take such steps as may be necessary to expand the clinical psychology graduate program of the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences.

(3) POST-AWARD EMPLOYMENT OBLIGATION.—

(A) AGREEMENT WITH SECRETARY.—Subject to subparagraph (B), as a condition of enrolling in a degree-granting program in clinical psychology, social work, or counseling at the Uniformed Services University of the Health

1 Sciences, a civilian student shall enter into an  
2 agreement with the Secretary of Defense pursu-  
3 ant to which the student agrees that, if the stu-  
4 dent does not become a member of a uniformed  
5 service upon graduating such program, the stu-  
6 dent shall work on a full-time basis as a covered  
7 civilian behavioral health provider for a period  
8 of a duration that is at least equivalent to the  
9 period during which the student was enrolled in  
10 such program.

11 (B) OTHER TERMS AND CONDITIONS.—An  
12 agreement entered into pursuant to subpara-  
13 graph (A) may include such other terms and  
14 conditions as the Secretary of Defense may de-  
15 termine necessary to protect the interests of the  
16 United States or otherwise appropriate for pur-  
17 poses of this section, including terms and condi-  
18 tions providing for limited exceptions from the  
19 employment obligation specified in such sub-  
20 paragraph.

21 (C) REPAYMENT.—A civilian graduate who  
22 does not complete the employment obligation  
23 required under the agreement entered into pur-  
24 suant to subparagraph (A) shall repay to the  
25 Secretary of Defense a prorated portion of the

1 student's costs of attendance in the program  
2 described in such paragraph. The amount of  
3 such prorated portion shall be determined by  
4 the Secretary.

5 (D) APPLICABILITY.—This subsection shall  
6 apply to civilian students who enroll in the first  
7 year of a degree-granting program in clinical  
8 psychology, social work, or counseling at the  
9 Uniformed Services University of the Health  
10 Sciences on or after the date of the enactment  
11 of this Act.

12 (4) IMPLEMENTATION PLAN.—Not later than  
13 one year after the date of the enactment of this Act,  
14 the Secretary shall submit to the congressional de-  
15 fense committees a plan for the implementation of  
16 this subsection. Such plan shall include—

17 (A) a determination as to the resources for  
18 personnel and facilities required for such imple-  
19 mentation;

20 (B) estimated timelines for such implemen-  
21 tation; and

22 (C) a projection of the number of grad-  
23 uates from the programs specified in paragraph  
24 (1) upon the completion of such implementa-  
25 tion.

1 (b) SCHOLARSHIP-FOR-SERVICE PROGRAM FOR CI-  
2 VILIAN BEHAVIORAL HEALTH PROVIDERS.—

3 (1) IN GENERAL.—Beginning not later than  
4 two years after the date of the enactment of this  
5 Act, the Secretary of Defense shall carry out a pro-  
6 gram under which—

7 (A) the Secretary may provide—

8 (i) direct grants to cover tuition, fees,  
9 living expenses, and other costs of attend-  
10 ance at an institution of higher education  
11 to an individual enrolled in a program of  
12 study leading to a graduate degree in clin-  
13 ical psychology, social work, counseling, or  
14 a related field (as determined by the Sec-  
15 retary); and

16 (ii) student loan repayment assistance  
17 to a credentialed behavioral health provider  
18 who has a graduate degree in clinical psy-  
19 chology, social work, counseling, or a re-  
20 lated field (as determined by the Sec-  
21 retary); and

22 (B) in exchange for such assistance, the  
23 recipient shall commit to work as a covered ci-  
24 vilian behavioral health provider in accordance  
25 with paragraph (2).

1           (2) POST-AWARD EMPLOYMENT OBLIGA-  
2 TIONS.—

3           (A) IN GENERAL.—Subject to subpara-  
4 graph (B), as a condition of receiving assistance  
5 under paragraph (1), the recipient of such as-  
6 sistance shall enter into an agreement with the  
7 Secretary of Defense pursuant to which the re-  
8 cipient agrees to work on a full-time basis as a  
9 covered civilian behavioral health provider for a  
10 period of a duration that is at least equivalent  
11 to the period during which the recipient re-  
12 ceived assistance under such paragraph.

13           (B) OTHER TERMS AND CONDITIONS.—An  
14 agreement entered into pursuant to subpara-  
15 graph (A) may include such other terms and  
16 conditions as the Secretary of Defense may de-  
17 termine necessary to protect the interests of the  
18 United States or otherwise appropriate for pur-  
19 poses of this section, including terms and condi-  
20 tions providing for limited exceptions from the  
21 post-award employment obligation specified in  
22 such subparagraph.

23           (3) REPAYMENT.—An individual who receives  
24 assistance under paragraph (1) and does not com-  
25 plete the employment obligation required under the

1       agreement entered into pursuant to paragraph (2)  
2       shall repay to the Secretary of Defense a prorated  
3       portion of the financial assistance received by the in-  
4       dividual under paragraph (1). The amount of such  
5       prorated portion shall be determined by the Sec-  
6       retary.

7               (4) IMPLEMENTATION PLAN.—Not later than  
8       one year after the date of the enactment of this Act,  
9       the Secretary of Defense shall submit to the con-  
10      gressional defense committees a plan for the imple-  
11      mentation of this subsection. Such plan shall in-  
12      clude—

13                   (A) a determination as to the resources re-  
14                   quired for such implementation;

15                   (B) estimated timelines for such implemen-  
16                   tation; and

17                   (C) a projection of the number of recipi-  
18                   ents of assistance under paragraph (1) upon  
19                   the completion of such implementation.

20               (c) INTERNSHIP PROGRAMS FOR CIVILIAN BEHAV-  
21      IORAL HEALTH.—

22                   (1) ESTABLISHMENT OF PROGRAMS.—The Sec-  
23                   retary of Defense shall establish paid pre-doctoral  
24                   and post-doctoral internship programs for the pur-

pose of training clinical psychologists to work as covered civilian behavioral health providers.

(2) EMPLOYMENT OBLIGATION.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Subject to subparagraph (B), as a condition of participating in an internship program under paragraph (1), the participant shall enter into an agreement with the Secretary of Defense pursuant to which the participant agrees to work on a full-time basis as a covered civilian behavioral health provider for a period of a duration that is at least equivalent to the period of participation in such internship program.

(B) OTHER TERMS AND CONDITIONS.—An agreement entered into pursuant to subparagraph (A) may include such other terms and conditions as the Secretary of Defense may determine necessary to protect the interests of the United States or otherwise appropriate for purposes of this section, including terms and conditions providing for limited exceptions from the employment obligation specified in such subparagraph.

(3) REPAYMENT.—An individual who participates in an internship program under paragraph (1)

1 and does not complete the employment obligation re-  
2 quired under the agreement entered into pursuant to  
3 paragraph (2) shall repay to the Secretary of De-  
4 fense a prorated portion of the cost of administering  
5 such program with respect to such individual and of  
6 any payment received by the individual under such  
7 program. The amount of such prorated portion shall  
8 be determined by the Secretary.

9 (4) IMPLEMENTATION PLAN.—Not later than  
10 one year after the date of the enactment of this Act,  
11 the Secretary of Defense shall submit to the con-  
12 gressional defense committees a plan for the imple-  
13 mentation of this subsection. Such plan shall include  
14 an explanation of how the Secretary will adjust the  
15 workload and staffing of behavioral health providers  
16 in military medical treatment facilities to ensure suf-  
17 ficient capacity to supervise participants in the in-  
18 ternship programs under paragraph (1).

19 (d) RETENTION BONUSES FOR CERTAIN BEHAV-  
20 IORAL HEALTH PROVIDERS.—

21 (1) RETENTION BONUS.—From amounts avail-  
22 able in the Department of Defense Civilian Work-  
23 force Incentive Fund established under section  
24 9902(a)(3) of title 5, United States Code, the Sec-  
25 retary of Defense may pay an incentive payment of



1 up to \$50,000 annually per employee to employees  
2 described in paragraph (2) for the purposes of re-  
3 taining such employees.

4 (2) ELIGIBLE RECIPIENTS OF BONUS.—Em-  
5 ployees described in this paragraph are covered civil-  
6 ian behavioral health providers in the following pro-  
7 fessions:

8 (A) Clinical psychologists.

9 (B) Social workers.

10 (C) Counselors.

11 (e) PILOT PROGRAM ON SAFE STORAGE OF PERSON-  
12 ALLY OWNED FIREARMS.—

13 (1) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary of De-  
14 fense shall establish a voluntary pilot program to  
15 promote the safe storage of personally owned fire-  
16 arms.

17 (2) ELEMENTS.—Under the pilot program  
18 under paragraph (1), the Secretary of Defense shall  
19 furnish to members of the Armed Forces described  
20 in paragraph (3) secure gun storage or safety de-  
21 vices for the purpose of securing personally owned  
22 firearms when not in use (including by directly pro-  
23 viding, subsidizing, or otherwise making available  
24 such devices).

1           (3) VOLUNTARY PARTICIPANTS.—A member of  
2       the Armed Forces described in this paragraph is a  
3       member of the Armed Forces who elects to partici-  
4       pate in the pilot program under paragraph (1) and  
5       is stationed at a military installation selected under  
6       paragraph (5).

7           (4) PLAN.—Not later than one year after the  
8       date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of De-  
9       fense shall submit to the congressional defense com-  
10      mittees a plan for the implementation of the pilot  
11      program under paragraph (1).

12          (5) SELECTION OF INSTALLATIONS.—Not later  
13      than two years after the date of the enactment of  
14      this Act, the Secretary of Defense shall select not  
15      fewer than five military installations at which to  
16      carry out the pilot program under paragraph (1).

17          (6) DURATION.—The duration of the pilot pro-  
18      gram under paragraph (1) shall be for a period of  
19      six years.

20          (7) REPORT.—Upon the termination of the  
21      pilot program under paragraph (1), the Secretary of  
22      Defense shall submit to the congressional defense  
23      committees a report containing the following infor-  
24      mation:

1 (A) The number and type of secure gun  
2 storage or safety devices furnished to members  
3 of the Armed Forces under such pilot program.

4 (B) The cost of such pilot program.

5 (C) An analysis of the effect of such pilot  
6 program on suicide prevention.

7 (D) Such other information as the Sec-  
8 retary may determine appropriate, except that  
9 such information may not include the personally  
10 identifiable information of a participant in such  
11 pilot program.

12 (8) SECURE GUN STORAGE OR SAFETY DEVICE  
13 DEFINED.—In this subsection, the term “secure gun  
14 storage or safety device” means—

15 (A) a device that, when installed on a fire-  
16 arm, is designed to prevent the firearm from  
17 being operated without first deactivating the de-  
18 vice;

19 (B) a device incorporated into the design  
20 of the firearm that is designed to prevent the  
21 operation of the firearm by any individual with-  
22 out access to the device; or

23 (C) a safe, gun safe, gun case, lock box, or  
24 other device that may be used to store a fire-

1 arm and is designed to be unlocked only by a  
2 key, combination, or other similar means.

3 (f) REPORT ON BEHAVIORAL HEALTH WORK-  
4 FORCE.—

5 (1) REPORT.—Not later than 90 days after the  
6 date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of De-  
7 fense shall conduct an analysis of the behavioral  
8 health workforce under the direct care component of  
9 the TRICARE program and submit to the congres-  
10 sional defense committees a report containing the re-  
11 sults of such analysis. Such report shall include,  
12 with respect to such workforce, the following:

13 (A) The number of positions authorized for  
14 military behavioral health providers within such  
15 workforce, and the number of such positions  
16 filled, disaggregated by the professions de-  
17 scribed in paragraph (2).

18 (B) The number of positions authorized for  
19 civilian behavioral health providers within such  
20 workforce, and the number of such positions  
21 filled, disaggregated by the professions de-  
22 scribed in paragraph (2).

23 (C) The models developed by the Secretary  
24 to determine the allocations of military behav-  
25 ioral health providers assigned to military med-

1           ical treatment facilities and embedded within an  
2           operational unit.

3           (D) For each military department, the  
4           ratio of military behavioral health providers as-  
5           signed to military medical treatment facilities  
6           compared to civilian behavioral health providers  
7           so assigned, disaggregated by the professions  
8           described in paragraph (2) and by military in-  
9           stallation.

10          (E) For each military department, the  
11          number of military behavioral health providers  
12          authorized to be embedded within an oper-  
13          ational unit, and the number of such positions  
14          filled, disaggregated by the professions de-  
15          scribed in paragraph (2).

16          (F) Data on the historical demand for be-  
17          havioral health services by members of the  
18          Armed Forces.

19          (G) An estimate of the number of health  
20          care providers necessary to meet the demand by  
21          such members for behavioral health care serv-  
22          ices under the direct care component of the  
23          TRICARE program, disaggregated by provider  
24          type.

1           (H) An identification of any shortfall be-  
2           tween the estimated number under subpara-  
3           graph (F) and the total number of positions for  
4           behavioral health providers filled within such  
5           workforce.

6           (I) Such other information as the Sec-  
7           retary may determine appropriate.

8           (2) PROVIDER TYPES.—The professions de-  
9           scribed in this paragraph are as follows:

10           (A) Clinical psychologists.

11           (B) Social workers.

12           (C) Counselors.

13           (D) Such other professions as the Sec-  
14           retary may determine appropriate.

15           (g) PLAN TO ADDRESS SHORTFALLS IN BEHAVIORAL  
16           HEALTH WORKFORCE.—Not later than 180 days after the  
17           date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall submit  
18           to the congressional defense committees a plan to address  
19           any shortfall of the behavioral health workforce identified  
20           under subsection (f)(1)(G). Such plan shall address the  
21           following:

22           (1) With respect to any such shortfall of mili-  
23           tary behavioral health providers (addressed sepa-  
24           rately with respect to such providers assigned to  
25           military medical treatment facilities and such pro-

1       viders assigned to be embedded within operational  
2       units), the recruitment, accession, retention, special  
3       pay and other aspects of compensation, workload,  
4       role of the Uniformed Services University of the  
5       Health Sciences and the Armed Forces Health Pro-  
6       fessions Scholarship Program under chapter 105 of  
7       title 10, United States Code, any additional authori-  
8       ties or resources necessary for the Secretary to in-  
9       crease the number of such providers, and such other  
10      considerations as the Secretary may consider appro-  
11      priate.

12           (2) With respect to addressing any such short-  
13      fall of civilian behavioral health providers, the re-  
14      cruitment, hiring, retention, pay and benefits, work-  
15      load, educational scholarship programs, any addi-  
16      tional authorities or resources necessary for the Sec-  
17      retary to increase the number of such providers, and  
18      such other considerations as the Secretary may con-  
19      sider appropriate.

20           (3) A recommendation as to whether the num-  
21      ber of military behavioral health providers in each  
22      military department should be increased, and if so,  
23      by how many.

24           (4) A plan for each Secretary of a military de-  
25      partment to assign additional military behavioral

1 health providers to military medical treatment facili-  
2 ties located at remote installations under the juris-  
3 diction of that Secretary.

4 (5) An assessment of the feasibility of hiring  
5 covered civilian behavioral health providers at remote  
6 installations, to supplement the provision of services  
7 by military behavioral health providers.

8 (6) Updated access standards for behavioral  
9 health care under the military health system, taking  
10 into account—

11 (A) the duration of time between a patient  
12 receiving a referral for such care and the pa-  
13 tient receiving individualized treatment (fol-  
14 lowing an initial intake assessment) from a be-  
15 havioral health provider; and

16 (B) the frequency of regular follow-up ap-  
17 pointments subsequent to the first appointment  
18 at which a patient receives such individualized  
19 treatment.

20 (7) A plan to expand access to behavioral  
21 health care under the military health system using  
22 telehealth.

23 (h) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

24 (1) The terms “Armed Forces” and “congres-  
25 sional defense committees” have the meanings given



1       those terms in section 101 of title 10, United States  
2       Code.

3           (2) The term “behavioral health” includes psy-  
4       chiatry, clinical psychology, social work, counseling,  
5       and related fields.

6           (3) The term “civilian behavioral health pro-  
7       vider” means a behavioral health provider who is a  
8       civilian employee of the Department of Defense.

9           (4) The term “cost of attendance” has the  
10      meaning given that term in section 472 of the High-  
11      er Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1087ll).

12          (5) The term “counselor” means an individual  
13      who holds—

14           (A) a master’s or doctoral degree from an  
15      accredited graduate program in—

16                   (i) marriage and family therapy; or

17                   (ii) clinical mental health counseling;

18                   and

19           (B) a current license or certification from  
20      a State that grants the individual the authority  
21      to provide counseling services as an independent  
22      practitioner in the respective field of the indi-  
23      vidual.

24          (6) The term “covered civilian behavioral health  
25      provider” means a civilian behavioral health provider

1       whose employment by the Secretary of Defense in-  
2       volves the provision of behavioral health services at  
3       a military medical treatment facility.

4           (7) The term “institution of higher education”  
5       has the meaning given that term in section 101 of  
6       the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C.  
7       1001).

8           (8) The term “military behavioral health pro-  
9       vider” means a behavioral health provider who is a  
10      member of the Armed Forces.

11          (9) The term “military installation” has the  
12      meaning given that term in section 2801 of title 10,  
13      United States Code.

14          (10) The term “military medical treatment fa-  
15      cility” means a facility specified in section 1073d of  
16      such title.

17          (11) The term “remote installation” means a  
18      military installation that the Secretary determines to  
19      be in a remote location.

20          (12) The term “TRICARE program” has the  
21      meaning given that term in section 1072 of such  
22      title.

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