

117TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 765

To require directors of medical centers of the Department of Veterans Affairs to submit annual fact sheets to the Secretary of Veterans Affairs on the status of such facilities, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 3, 2021

Mrs. LESKO (for herself, Mrs. LEE of Nevada, Mr. LUETKEMEYER, and Mrs. HARTZLER) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs

A BILL

To require directors of medical centers of the Department of Veterans Affairs to submit annual fact sheets to the Secretary of Veterans Affairs on the status of such facilities, 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 “VA Medical Center
5 Facility Transparency Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. INFORMATION ON MEDICAL FACILITIES OF THE DE-**
2 **PARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS.**

3 (a) FACT SHEETS.—The Secretary of Veterans Af-
4 fairs shall ensure that each director of a medical center
5 of the Department of Veterans Affairs submits to the Sec-
6 retary, the Committees on Veterans' Affairs of the House
7 of Representatives and the Senate, and the appropriate
8 Members of Congress the following:

9 (1) An annual concise, easy-to-read fact sheet
10 containing, with respect to the year covered by the
11 fact sheet:

12 (A) Statistics regarding—

13 (i) the number of veterans who were
14 treated at a medical facility of the Depart-
15 ment under the jurisdiction of the director;

16 (ii) the number of appointments con-
17 ducted by each such facility;

18 (iii) the most common illnesses or con-
19 ditions for which treatment was furnished;

20 (iv) the satisfaction of veterans who
21 were treated at each such facility;

22 (v) how each such facility compares
23 with other facilities with respect to the sat-
24 isfaction of veterans who were treated at
25 the facilities; and

1 (vi) other matters the director deter-
2 mines appropriate.

3 (B) A description of any successes or
4 achievements experienced by such facilities, in-
5 cluding—

6 (i) actions taken to improve such fa-
7 cilities;

8 (ii) actions taken to improve the ac-
9 cess to and quality of the care provided at
10 such facilities; and

11 (iii) any other accomplishments deter-
12 mined appropriate by the director.

13 (C) A description of special areas of em-
14 phasis or specialization by such facilities, such
15 as efforts aimed at meeting the needs of women
16 veterans, suicide prevention and other mental
17 health initiatives, opioid abuse prevention and
18 pain management, or special efforts on veteran
19 homelessness, or other matters as the director
20 determines appropriate.

21 (D) A description of matters concerning
22 such facilities that have previously been identi-
23 fied as deficient and needing remediation that
24 are still in need of such remediation.

1 (2) A quarterly fact sheet containing, with re-
2 spect to the quarter covered by the fact sheet, the
3 average wait time for veterans to receive treatment
4 at the medical facility of the Department under the
5 jurisdiction of the director.

6 (b) AVAILABILITY.—Each fact sheet under sub-
7 section (a) shall be made publicly available—

8 (1) in a physical form at the relevant medical
9 facility of the Department in a conspicuous location;
10 and

11 (2) in an electronic form on the internet website
12 of the facility.

13 (c) TIMING OF FACT SHEETS.—The fact sheets
14 under subsection (a) shall be submitted during the first
15 fiscal year beginning after the date that is 180 days after
16 the date of the enactment of this Act and not less fre-
17 quently than—

18 (1) once each fiscal year thereafter with respect
19 to the annual fact sheet under paragraph (1) of such
20 subsection; and

21 (2) once each fiscal quarter thereafter with re-
22 spect to the quarterly fact sheet under paragraph
23 (2) of such subsection.

24 (d) STANDARDIZED FORMAT.—The Secretary shall
25 establish a standard format for the fact sheets under sub-

1 section (a) to ensure that each director of a medical center
2 of the Department carries out such subsection in a con-
3 sistent manner.

4 (e) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

5 (1) The term “appropriate Members of Con-
6 gress” means, with respect to a medical facility of
7 the Department of Veterans Affairs about which a
8 fact sheet is submitted under subsection (a), the
9 Senators representing the State, and the Member,
10 Delegate, or Resident Commissioner of the House of
11 Representatives representing the district, that in-
12 cludes the facility.

13 (2) The term “State” means each of the several
14 States, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth
15 of Puerto Rico, and any territory or possession of
16 the United States.

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