

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. _____

To amend title 38, United States Code, to require the provision of certain services to veterans in the Freely Associated States, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

Mr. MORAN (for himself, Mr. SCHATZ, Mr. WICKER, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. RISCH, and Ms. MURKOWSKI) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on _____

A BILL

To amend title 38, United States Code, to require the provision of certain services to veterans in the Freely Associated States, 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 “Caring for Veterans
5 and Strengthening National Security Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. REQUIREMENT TO PROVIDE CERTAIN SERVICES TO**
2 **VETERANS IN THE FREELY ASSOCIATED**
3 **STATES.**

4 (a) TELEHEALTH AND MAIL ORDER PHARMACY
5 BENEFITS.—Section 1724(f)(1) of title 38, United States
6 Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

7 “(C) Not later than one year after the date of the
8 enactment of the Caring for Veterans and Strengthening
9 National Security Act, the Secretary shall furnish to vet-
10 erans described in subparagraph (A), subject to agree-
11 ments described in such subparagraph, telehealth benefits
12 and mail order pharmacy benefits.”.

13 (b) BENEFICIARY TRAVEL.—Section 111(h)(1) of
14 such title is amended by striking “the Secretary may make
15 payments” and inserting “beginning not later than one
16 year after the date of the enactment of the Caring for
17 Veterans and Strengthening National Security Act, the
18 Secretary shall make payments”.

19 (c) QUARTERLY REPORT.—

20 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not less frequently than
21 quarterly, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall
22 submit to the appropriate committees of Congress a
23 report on the status of implementation of the
24 amendments made by this section and the cost of
25 such implementation.

1 (2) APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES OF CONGRESS
2 DEFINED.—In this subsection, the term “appro-
3 priate committees of Congress” means—

4 (A) the Committee on Veterans’ Affairs
5 and the Committee on Appropriations of the
6 Senate; and

7 (B) the Committee on Veterans’ Affairs
8 and the Committee on Appropriations of the
9 House of Representatives.

10 **SEC. 3. EXTENSION OF CERTAIN LIMITS ON PAYMENTS OF**
11 **PENSION.**

12 Section 5503(d)(7) of title 38, United States Code,
13 is amended by striking “January 31, 2033” and inserting
14 “March 31, 2033”.