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(Original Signature of Member)

114TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R.

To amend the Veterans Access, Choice, and Accountability Act of 2014 to modify the distance requirements regarding the eligibility of certain veterans to receive medical care and services from non-Department of Veterans Affairs facilities, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. EMMER introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on _____

A BILL

To amend the Veterans Access, Choice, and Accountability Act of 2014 to modify the distance requirements regarding the eligibility of certain veterans to receive medical care and services from non-Department of Veterans Affairs 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 “Keeping our Promises
5 to Veterans Act of 2015”.

1 **SEC. 2. MODIFICATION OF ELIGIBILITY OF VETERANS**
2 **CHOICE PROGRAM AND IMPLEMENTATION**
3 **OF PROMPT PAYMENT REQUIREMENT.**

4 (a) **ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS.**—

5 (1) **DISTANCE.**—Subsection (b)(2)(B) of section
6 101 of the Veterans Access, Choice, and Account-
7 ability Act of 2014 (38 U.S.C. 1701 note) is amend-
8 ed to read as follows:

9 “(B) resides more than 20 miles from the
10 closest medical facility of the Department, in-
11 cluding a community-based outpatient clinic,
12 that is able to provide to the veteran the care
13 and services that the veteran seeks;”.

14 (2) **WAIT-TIME GOAL.**—Subsection (s) of such
15 section is amended to read as follows:

16 “(s) **WAIT-TIME GOALS OF THE VETERANS HEALTH**
17 **ADMINISTRATION.**—In this section, the term ‘wait-time
18 goals of the Veterans Health Administration’ means not
19 more than 15 days from the date on which a veteran re-
20 quests an appointment for hospital care or medical serv-
21 ices from the Department.”.

22 (b) **PROMPT PAYMENT.**—Section 105(b)(1) of such
23 Act is amended by adding at the end the following new
24 sentences: “The Secretary shall implement such system by
25 not later than the earlier of the date that is 180 days after
26 the date on which the Comptroller General of the United

1 States submits the report under subsection (c) or Feb-
2 ruary 1, 2016. The Secretary shall publish on the Internet
3 website of the Department an explanation of how such sys-
4 tem will standardize payments.”.