



HOUSE COMMITTEE ON
VETERANS' AFFAIRS
Republicans | Ranking Member Phil Roe, M.D.

H.J. Resolution 80: Approving the request of the Secretary of Veterans Affairs for a waiver under section 1703E(f) of title 38, United States Code.

Background:

Section 152 of the MISSION Act created a VA Center for Innovation for Care and Payment to test new payment and service delivery models that could increase quality of care for the nation's veterans while reducing taxpayer spending. The law requires VA to submit a report to Congress requesting waiver of any such authorities necessary for carrying out an innovation pilot and requires that Congress pass a Joint Resolution approving VA's request.

On December 6, 2019, VA submitted a request to Congress asking to pursue a pilot program through the Center for Innovation for Care and Payment to increase access to dental care for veterans by entering into arrangements with dental providers in the community who agree to provide free or discounted dental services to veterans who are enrolled in the VA healthcare system but are not eligible for VA-provided dental care. The request would allow administrative staff in VA medical facilities to educate these veterans about their options for dental care in the community and to coordinate such care for them, as needed. H.J. Res. 80 would approve such request. Oral health is an important component of overall health and connecting veterans who cannot seek dental care in VA medical facilities with free or low-cost dental care in their communities would allow these veterans to be better served and to live healthier lives.

The Message:

- This bill would approve VA's first request for a waiver under the Center for Innovation for Care and Payment, which was created by the MISSION Act to increase quality of care for America's veterans at an increased value for America's taxpayers.
- This resolution would approve VA's request to increase access to dental care for veterans who are ineligible for VA-provided dental services.
- Good oral health is key to good overall health and allowing VA to coordinate free or low-cost dental care for veterans who cannot receive dental care through VA is the right thing to do.