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(Original Signature of Member)

117TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. _____

To amend title 38, United States Code, to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to furnish dental care in the same manner as any other medical service, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Ms. BROWNLEY of California introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on _____

A BILL

To amend title 38, United States Code, to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to furnish dental care in the same manner as any other medical service, 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 “Dental Care for Vet-
5 erans Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. REQUIREMENT THAT SECRETARY OF VETERANS AF-**
2 **FAIRS FURNISH DENTAL CARE IN THE SAME**
3 **MANNER AS ANY OTHER MEDICAL SERVICE.**

4 (a) DENTAL BENEFITS.—

5 (1) IN GENERAL.—Title 38, United States
6 Code, is amended—

7 (A) in section 1701(6), by striking “as de-
8 scribed in sections 1710 and 1712 of this title”;

9 (B) in section 1710(c), by striking the sec-
10 ond sentence;

11 (C) in section 1712—

12 (i) by striking subsections (a) and (b);

13 (ii) by redesignating subsections (c),
14 (d), (e), and (f) as subsections (a), (b), (c),
15 and (d), respectively; and

16 (iii) in subsection (a), as redesignated
17 by subparagraph (B)—

18 (I) by striking “Dental appli-
19 ances” and inserting “The Secretary
20 may furnish dentures, dental appli-
21 ances”; and

22 (II) by striking “to be furnished
23 by the Secretary under this section
24 may be procured by the Secretary”
25 and inserting “under this section and
26 may procure such appliances”; and

1 (D) by striking section 2062.

2 (2) PHASED ELIGIBILITY.—The amendments
3 made by paragraph (1) shall apply as follows:

4 (A) In the case of an individual who is eli-
5 gible for dental services and appliances fur-
6 nished by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs
7 under chapter 17 of title 38, United States
8 Code, on the date of the enactment of this Act,
9 beginning on the date of the enactment of this
10 Act.

11 (B) In the case of a veteran who is not so
12 eligible on the date of the enactment of this Act
13 and who is described in paragraph (1) or (2) of
14 subsection (a) of section 1705 of such title, be-
15 ginning on the date that is one year after the
16 date of the enactment of this Act.

17 (C) In the case of a veteran who is not so
18 eligible on the date of the enactment of this Act
19 and who is described in paragraph (3) or (4) of
20 subsection (a) of section 1705 of such title, be-
21 ginning on the date that is two years after the
22 date of the enactment of this Act.

23 (D) In the case of a veteran who is not so
24 eligible on the date of the enactment of this Act
25 and who is described in paragraph (5) or (6) of

1 subsection (a) of section 1705 of such title, be-
2 ginning on the date that is three years after the
3 date of the enactment of this Act.

4 (E) In the case of a veteran who is not so
5 eligible on the date of the enactment of this Act
6 and who is described in paragraph (7) or (8) of
7 subsection (a) of section 1705 of such title, be-
8 ginning on the date that is four years after the
9 date of the enactment of this Act.

10 (b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—Section 1525(a)
11 of title 38, United States Code, is amended by striking
12 “medicines under section 1712(d)” and inserting “medi-
13 cines under section 1712(b)”.

14 (c) CLERICAL AMENDMENTS.—Such title is further
15 amended—

16 (1) in section 1712, in the heading for such sec-
17 tion, by striking “**Dental care**” and inserting
18 “**Appliances**”;

19 (2) in the table of sections at the beginning of
20 chapter 17, by striking the item relating to section
21 1712 and inserting the following new item:

“1712. Appliances; drugs and medicines for certain disabled veterans; vac-
cines.”;

22 and

1 (3) in the table of sections at the beginning of
2 chapter 20, by striking the item relating to section
3 2062.