

**AMENDMENT TO RULES COMMITTEE PRINT**

**118-36**

**OFFERED BY MR. NEGUSE OF COLORADO**

At the end of subtitle A of title XVII, add the following new section:

1 **SEC. 17\_\_\_ . EXPANSION OF HEALTH CARE FROM DEPART-**  
2 **MENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS TO INCLUDE**  
3 **MEMBERS OF THE RESERVE COMPONENTS**  
4 **OF THE ARMED FORCES WHO ARE NOT ON**  
5 **ACTIVE ORDERS.**

6 (a) EXPANSION OF CARE.—

7 (1) IN GENERAL.—Section 1789 of title 38,  
8 United States Code, is amended to read as follows:

9 **“§ 1789. Health care for members of the reserve com-**  
10 **ponents of the Armed Forces**

11 “(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary (subject to sub-  
12 section (b)) shall furnish hospital care and medical serv-  
13 ices, including mental health services, to any member of  
14 the reserve components of the Armed Forces during any  
15 period in which the member is not entitled to benefits  
16 under TRICARE Prime (as defined in section 1072(14)  
17 of title 10).

1           “(b) LIMITATION.—The requirement in subsection  
2 (a) shall be effective in any fiscal year only to the extent  
3 and in the amount provided in advance in appropriations  
4 Acts for such purpose.

5           “(c) CONSULTATION WITH SECRETARY OF DE-  
6 FENSE.—The Secretary shall carry out this section in con-  
7 sultation with the Secretary of Defense.”.

8           (2) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sec-  
9 tions at the beginning of subchapter VIII of chapter  
10 17 of such title is amended by striking the item re-  
11 lating to section 1789 and inserting the following  
12 new item:

“1789. Health care for members of the reserve components of the Armed  
Forces.”.

13           (b) ENROLLMENT IN PATIENT ENROLLMENT SYS-  
14 TEM.—

15           (1) PRIORITY FOR ENROLLMENT.—Section  
16 1705(a) of title 38, United States Code, is amend-  
17 ed—

18                   (A) in the matter preceding paragraph (1),  
19 by striking “enrollment of veterans” and insert-  
20 ing “enrollment of individuals under such sys-  
21 tem”; and

22                   (B) in paragraph (7)—

23                           (i) by striking “Veterans” and insert-  
24 ing “(A) Veterans”; and

1 (ii) by adding at the end the following  
2 new subparagraph:

3 “(B) Members of the reserve components of the  
4 Armed Forces for purposes of furnishing hospital  
5 care and medical services under section 1789(a) of  
6 this title.”.

7 (2) INITIAL ENROLLMENT.—

8 (A) PHASED APPROACH.—The Secretary of  
9 Veterans Affairs shall implement a phased ap-  
10 proach under subparagraphs (B) and (C) to en-  
11 roll all members of the reserve components of  
12 the Armed Forces in the patient enrollment sys-  
13 tem.

14 (B) UNINSURED.—The Secretary shall en-  
15 sure that all members of the reserve compo-  
16 nents of the Armed Forces who are uninsured  
17 are enrolled in the patient enrollment system by  
18 not later than December 31, 2023.

19 (C) OTHER MEMBERS.—The Secretary  
20 shall ensure that all members of the reserve  
21 components of the Armed Forces not covered by  
22 subparagraph (B) are enrolled in the patient  
23 enrollment system by not later than December  
24 31, 2024.

1           (3) ONGOING ENROLLMENT.—After December  
2           31, 2023, the Secretary shall automatically enroll in  
3           the patient enrollment system all new members of  
4           the reserve components of the Armed Forces upon  
5           those members joining the reserve components.

6           (4) STUDY.—

7           (A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall  
8           conduct a study to evaluate options for improv-  
9           ing access to health care for members of the re-  
10          serve components of the Armed Forces, includ-  
11          ing by conducting a review of priority groups  
12          for enrollment in the patient enrollment system.

13          (B) REPORT.—Not later than 180 days  
14          after the date of the enactment of this Act, the  
15          Secretary shall submit to Congress a report on  
16          the study conducted under subparagraph (A).

17          (5) CONSULTATION WITH SECRETARY OF DE-  
18          FENSE.—The Secretary shall carry out this sub-  
19          section and the amendments made by this subsection  
20          in consultation with the Secretary of Defense.

21          (6) PATIENT ENROLLMENT SYSTEM DE-  
22          FINED.—In this subsection, the term “patient enroll-  
23          ment system” means the system of annual patient  
24          enrollment of the Department of Veterans Affairs

1 established and operated under section 1705(a) of  
2 title 38, United States Code.

