

AMENDMENT TO RULES COMMITTEE PRINT 118-

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OFFERED BY MR. BAIRD OF INDIANA

At the end of title XVIII, add the following:

1 **SEC. 18 __ . REQUIREMENT FOR TIMELY SCHEDULING OF**
2 **APPOINTMENTS AT MEDICAL FACILITIES OF**
3 **DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS.**

4 (a) REQUIREMENT.—Chapter 17 of title 38, United
5 States Code, is amended—

6 (1) by redesignating section 1706A as section
7 1706B; and

8 (2) by inserting after section 1706 the following
9 new section:

10 **“§ 1706A. Management of health care: timely sched-**
11 **uling of appointments at Department fa-**
12 **cilities**

13 “(a) REQUIREMENT FOR SCHEDULING.—In man-
14 aging the provision of hospital care and medical services
15 at medical facilities of the Department of Veterans Affairs
16 under this chapter, the Secretary shall ensure that when-
17 ever a covered veteran contacts the Department by tele-
18 phone to request the scheduling of an appointment for
19 care or services for the covered veteran at such a facility,

1 the scheduling for the appointment occurs during that
2 telephone call (regardless of the prospective date of the
3 appointment being scheduled).

4 “(b) COVERED VETERAN DEFINED.—In this section,
5 the term ‘covered veteran’ means a veteran who is enrolled
6 in the system of patient enrollment of the Department
7 under section 1705(a) of this title.”.

8 (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections
9 at the beginning of such chapter is amended by striking
10 the item relating to section 1706A and inserting the fol-
11 lowing new items:

“1706A. Management of health care: timely scheduling of appointments at De-
partment facilities.

“1706B. Remediation of medical service lines.”.

12 (c) APPLICABILITY.—The amendments made by sub-
13 section (a) shall apply with respect to requests for appoint-
14 ment scheduling occurring on or after the date that is 120
15 days after the date of the enactment of this section.

