

**AMENDMENT TO H.R. 1540, AS REPORTED
OFFERED BY MR. THOMPSON OF PENNSYLVANIA**

Page 332, after line 24, insert the following:

1 **SEC. 713. EXPANSION OF STATE LICENSURE EXCEPTION**
2 **FOR CERTAIN HEALTH CARE PROFES-**
3 **SIONALS.**

4 (a) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Con-
5 gress that—

6 (1) the Secretary of Defense and the Secretary
7 of Veterans Affairs need to renew and improve ef-
8 forts to reach out to rural America, which has less
9 access to care;

10 (2) behavioral health services for active duty
11 members of the Armed Forces, members of the re-
12 serve components, members of the National Guard,
13 and veterans need to be more easily and readily ac-
14 cessible; and

15 (3) medical records and records of deployment
16 need a “warm transition” and better collaboration
17 between the Department of Defense and the Depart-
18 ment of Veterans Affairs.

19 (b) EXPANSION.—Section 1094(d) of title 10, United
20 States Code, is amended—

1 (1) in paragraph (1)—

2 (A) by inserting “at any location” before
3 “in any State”; and

4 (B) by striking “regardless” and all that
5 follows through the end and inserting “regard-
6 less of where such health-care professional or
7 the patient are located, so long as the practice
8 is within the scope of the authorized Federal
9 duties.”; and

10 (2) in paragraph (2), by striking “member of
11 the armed forces” and inserting “member of the
12 armed forces, civilian employee of the Department of
13 Defense, personal services contractor under section
14 1091 of this title, or other health-care professional
15 credentialed and privileged at a Federal health care
16 institution or location specially designated by the
17 Secretary for this purpose”.

18 (c) REPORTS.—Not later than 90 days after the date
19 of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Defense,
20 in coordination with the Secretary of Veterans Affairs,
21 shall submit to Congress separate reports on each of the
22 following:

23 (1) The plans to develop and expand programs
24 to use new Internet and communication technologies
25 for improved access to care and resources, including

1 telemedicine, telehealth care services, and telebehav-
2 ioral health programs that ensure patient privacy.

3 (2) Any plans to improve the transition of
4 health and battlefield deployment records to better
5 assist and care for veterans.

6 (d) REGULATIONS.—The Secretary of Defense shall
7 prescribe regulations to carry out the amendments made
8 by this section.

