AMENDMENT TO H.R. 5620
OFFERED BY MR. CARTWRIGHT OF PENNSYLVANIA

Page 54, after line 2, insert the following:

SEC. 11. APPOINTMENT OF PSYCHIATRISTS BY VETERANS HEALTH ADMINISTRATION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 74 of title 38, United States Code, is amended by inserting after section 7406 the following new section:

“§ 7406A. Appointment of certain psychiatrists who complete residencies

“(a) IN GENERAL.—(1) Subject to subsection (b), the Secretary may appoint, without regard to civil service or classification laws, a psychiatrist who completes a residency under section 7406 of this title to a position under section 7401 or 7405 immediately after such residency, if the psychiatrist meets the qualifications established in regulations prescribed by the Secretary for such position.

“(2) The Secretary may begin the process of appointing a psychiatrist under paragraph (1) before the psychiatrist completes a residency.

“(b) POSITIONS PERMITTED.—The Secretary may appoint a psychiatrist under subsection (a) if the position...
to which the psychiatrist is appointed has been unfilled
for not less than 35 days as of the date of the appoint-
ment.”.

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections
at the beginning of such chapter is amended by inserting
after the item relating to section 7406 the following new
item:

“7406A. Appointment of certain psychiatrists who complete residencies.”.