

H.R. 6823 / S. 3854

Elizabeth Dole

Home and Community-Based Services
for Veterans and Caregivers
Act of 2022

PURPORTED GOALS:

- **Enhancement:** Increase noninstitutional alternative to nursing home coverage
- **Expand Provided Services**
- **Coordination of Services**
- **Research/Pilot**



Veteran Warriors' take on H.R. 6823 and S.3854



Support: Increasing the cap on noninstitutional coverage from 65 to 100%.



Do NOT Support: Duplication of services already provided by VA, projects, research, or other unnecessary expenses that are in place or slated for improvement or implementation.

RAISE NURSING HOME CAP

Goal

Raising the cap on how much the VA can pay for the cost of institutional alternatives to nursing home care from 65% of the cost of nursing home care to 100%.



Needed

Cap is currently set at covering 65% of the cost.

An increase in the allowance for alternatives to nursing home care is desperately needed.

Veteran Warriors supports this piece of the legislation.

THE FOLLOWING ARE IN PLACE OR SLATED FOR EXPANSION **WITHOUT** H.R. 6823 S. 3854

Home and
community
based services

Respite

Coordination
of Home Care

PCAFC
Handoffs

"One Stop
Shop"

Service
Gaps

Pilot: Home
Health Aide
Shortage

HOME AND COMMUNITY BASED SERVICES

[/ ABA Groups](#) / [Health Law Section](#) / [Health Law Section News](#)

Goal

Expanding access to home and community-based services for veterans living in US territories and to Native veterans enrolled in IHS or tribal health program

February 04, 2022

VA to Expand Home and Community Based Services by 2026

Share:



Established

VA is slated to 'Expand Home and Community Based Services by 2026'

Last week, the VA's Office of Geriatrics and Extended Care [announced](#) the expansion of its programs for Home-Based Primary Care, Medical Foster Home, and Veteran Directed Care. The goal is to make these services available at all VA medical centers by 2026. [Home-Based Primary Care](#) provides health care services to veterans in the comfort of their own homes. [Medical Foster Homes](#) are alternatives to nursing homes where a few residents receive 24/7 care from trained caregivers in private homes. [Veteran Directed Care](#) supports veterans who need help with activities of daily living and personal care services. Scotte Hartronft, M.D., the Executive Director of VA Office of Geriatrics and Extended Care, [stated](#) that these programs "allow veterans to age-in-place, avoid or delay nursing home placement and choose the care environment that aligns most with their care needs, preferences and goals." This expansion is well-timed because in 2019, approximately 2 million veterans were eligible for nursing home care; it is estimated that number will double by 2039.

https://www.americanbar.org/groups/health_law/section-news/2022/february/exp-hom/

RESPITE

Goal

Providing respite care to caregivers of veterans enrolled in home care programs

Established

Geriatrics and Extended Care
Respite Care
All enrolled Veterans are eligible for Respite Care IF they meet the clinical criteria for the service and it is available.

VA | U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

VA Benefits and Health Care ▾ About VA ▾ Find a VA Location My VA

VA » Health Care » Geriatrics and Extended Care » Respite Care

Geriatrics and Extended Care

▸ Geriatrics and Extended Care
▸ More Health Care

QUICK LINKS

Hospital Locator
Zip Code Go

Health Programs
Protect Your Health
A-Z Health Topics

Veterans Crisis Line
DIAL 988 then PRESS 1

My Health, My Care
My Health, My Care: 24/7 Access to VA

Respite Care

What is it? Am I eligible? What services? How do I decide?

What is Respite Care?

Respite Care is a program that pays for care for a short time when family caregivers need a break, need to run errands, or need to go out of town for a few days. Respite Care can be helpful to Veterans of all ages, and their caregiver.

There are two types of respite:

Home Respite Care is a service that pays for a person to come to a Veteran's home or for a Veteran to go to an adult day health care program while their family caregiver takes a break or runs errands.

Nursing Home Respite Care is a service that pays for a Veteran to go to a nursing home while the family goes out of town for a few days without worrying about leaving the Veteran alone at home. Nursing home respite may take place in a VA Community Living Center or a community nursing home and is available for a maximum of 30 days each calendar year. This type of respite should be scheduled in advance. Services may vary by location.

The program is for Veterans who need help with activities of daily living. Examples include help with bathing, dressing, or fixing meals. This program is also for Veterans who are isolated, or their caregiver is experiencing burden. Respite Care can be used in combination with other Home and Community Based Services.

Respite Care can help lower the stress the Veterans and their family caregiver may feel when managing a Veteran's short-term or long-term care needs at home.

Respite Care

Watch this video to learn more about Respite Care options for caregivers of Veterans.

RETURN TO: Home and Community Based Services

Print this topic

[return to top](#)

https://www.va.gov/GERIATRICS/pages/Respite_Care.asp

PCAFC HANDOFFS

Goal

Requiring VA to provide a coordinated handoff for veterans and caregivers denied or discharged from the Program of Comprehensive Assistance for Family Caregivers into any other home care program they may be eligible for.

Connection and referrals to available VA and community resources

Referrals

The [CSP Teams/Caregiver Support Coordinator](#) is knowledgeable about the various resources available to caregivers both at VA and in the community. The [CSP Teams/Caregiver Support Coordinator](#) can connect you with resources based on your individual needs.

CSP Resource Fairs

Caregiver and Family Resource Fairs, provided through the Veterans Health Administration (VHA) Caregiver Support Program (CSP), offer caregivers the opportunity to find a wealth of support from a variety agencies, organizations and non-profits. Caregivers also find the fairs helpful in broadening their networks. Visit CSP's Events page to find a resource fair near you: [VA Caregiver Support Program \(CSP\) - Events - VA Caregiver Support Program](#)

Need Help?



Your local [CSP Team/Caregiver Support Coordinators](#) is a licensed professional who can support you by matching you with services for which you are eligible, and providing you with valuable information about resources that can help you stay smart, strong and organized as you care for the Veteran you love.

https://www.caregiver.va.gov/Care_Caregivers.asp

Established

Referrals

The CSP Teams/Caregiver Support Coordinator is knowledgeable about the various resources available to caregivers both at VA and in the community. The CSP Teams/Caregiver Support Coordinator can connect you with resources based on your individual needs.

COORDINATION OF HOME CARE

Goal

Coordinating expanded VA home care programs with other VA programs, like the Program of Comprehensive Assistance for Family Caregivers, and other federal programs, like Medicare's PACE program.

Established

Geriatrics and Extended Care

Case Mix Tool is used for coordination of services

https://www.va.gov/geriatrics/pages/Nursing_Home_and_Residential_Services.asp

VA | U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

Search Contact us Sign in

VA Benefits and Health Care About VA Find a VA Location My VA

VA » Health Care » Geriatrics and Extended Care

Geriatrics and Extended Care

- Geriatrics and Extended Care
 - Home
 - GEC Leadership
 - Coronavirus (COVID-19)
 - Home and Community Services
 - Residential Settings and Nursing Homes
 - Paying for Long Term Care
 - Health, Fitness, Rehabilitation
 - Making Decisions and Advance Care Planning
 - Mental Health, Memory Loss and Brain Health
 - For Caregivers
 - For Health Care Professionals
 - Other VA and non-VA Resources
 - Print Handouts
 - More Health Care

QUICK LINKS

- Hospital Locator
- Health Programs
- Protect Your Health
- A-Z Health Topics

Veterans Crisis Line
DIAL 988 then PRESS 1

My healthvet
My Health, My Care. Join Access to VA.

Paying for Long Term Care
You may be able to pay for long term care services through VA, Medicare, Medicaid and through insurance or your private funds. [Learn more »](#)

Subscribe to our monthly bulletin for Veterans, families and caregivers.

Home Based Primary Care Paying for Long Term Care Keep Your Memory Sharp

Home and Community Services Residential Settings and Nursing Homes Making Decisions and Advance Care Planning Mental Health, Memory Loss and Brain Health Paying for Long Term Care Health, Fitness, and Rehabilitation For Health Care Professionals For Caregivers Other VA and non-VA Resources



Patient Care Services

PCS

More Health Care

QUICK LINKS

Hospital Locator
Zip Code Go

Health Programs

Protect Your Health

A-Z Health Topics



PCS - Programs Offices

Caregiver Support Program

- Caregiver Support Program

Care Managements & Social Work Services

- Fisher House Program
- Transition Care Mgt (OEF/OIF/OND)
- Post-9/11 Transition and Case Management
- Social Work
- Intimate Partner Violence Assistance Program (IPVAP)
- VHA Liaisons to Health Care
- VA Liaison Program to Military Treatment Facilities

National Chaplain Service

Office of Connected Care

- VHA Telehealth Services
- Web & Mobile Solutions
- My HealthVet

Geriatrics & Extended Care Services

- Community Living Centers
- Community-Based Long Term Care
- Community Residential Care
- GerIPACT and GEM
- Geriatric Research, Education, and Clinical Centers (GRECC)
- Home-Based Primary Care
- Hospice & Palliative Care
- Medical Foster Homes
- State Veterans Homes

Office of Nursing Services (ONS)

Patient Centered Care and Cultural Transformation

- Whole Health

Pharmacy Benefits Management Services

- CMOP
- Drug Safety
- Education Medical Advisory Panel
- Emergency Pharmacy Services
- National Formulary Management
- Pharmacy Practice
- VISN/VAMC Pharmacy Support

Physician Assistant Services

Population Health Services

- Health Equity
- Health Solutions
- LGBTQ+
- Health Program
- National Center for Health Promotion and Disease Prevention (NCP)
- Health Outcomes Military Exposures (HOME) (formerly Post Deployment Health Services)
- Public Health Surveillance and Research
- Rural Health

Rehabilitation and Prosthetic Services

- Audiology/Speech Pathology
- Blind Rehabilitation
- Chiropractic Care
- Polytrauma Centers
- Prosthetics and Sensory Aids
- Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation
- Recreation Therapy
- Specialty Rehab Programs

National Program Office of Sterile Processing Services (NPOSP)

return to top

Learn what the PACT Act means for your VA benefits >>

HR 6823/S3854

Elizabeth Dole Home and Community-Based
Services for Veterans and Caregivers Act of 2022

"ONE STOP SHOP"

Goal

Establish a “one stop shop”
webpage to centralize
information for families and
veterans on programs available.

Established

Patient Care Services Program Offices

<https://www.patientcare.va.gov/Programs.asp>

REVIEW SERVICE GAPS

Goal

Reviewing existing service gaps in geriatric and extended care at the VA.

2018 Pilot

Pilot project seeks to address Veteran homecare crisis

The \$20.7 million-per-year program provides housing and care for more than 1,000 veterans in 42 states and Puerto Rico, serving as an alternative to nursing home care for those who cannot live safely on their own. Veterans pay their caregivers \$1,500 to \$3,000 a month, depending on location, saving the government about \$10,000 a month in nursing home care. It has been difficult to scale up, though, because the VA accepts only foster homes that meet strict qualifications.

<https://mainebeacon.com/va-pilot-project-seeks-to-address-veteran-homecare-crisis/>

PILOT PROJECT

Goal

Establishing a pilot project to address home health aide shortages

2018 Pilot

Field Hearing Subcommittee on
Health of The Committee on
Veterans' Affairs U.S. House of
Representatives
July 30, 2018

<https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/CHRG-115hrg35827/html/CHRG-115hrg35827.htm>

Long-Term Care Needs Assessment

To meet the coming demographic changes, CalVet is undertaking an extensive statewide needs assessment. We have recruited several highly skilled individuals to lead this effort, using an array of surveys, studies, and datasets to develop projections. Based on all of these projections and the programming and resources of our facilities, CalVet will identify potential shortcomings in services while exploring the role of the Veterans Homes and other providers in bridging those gaps. The VA has graciously provided access to its data as well as support via subject-matter expertise, and we greatly appreciate its assistance with CalVet's project.

While our research is ongoing, we expect the assessment to confirm and reinforce some of the trends we already notice. For example, we anticipate continued demand for skilled nursing care as veterans live longer and have more complex healthcare issues. In particular, there will likely be a sustained need for secured memory care units for veterans with dementia-related illnesses.

CalVet also expects more demand for mental and behavioral health programming focusing on post-traumatic stress, substance abuse, and other conditions. Veterans with these conditions may not fit the classical model of a long-term care patient.

Finally, and perhaps most importantly, CalVet hopes to develop a better understanding of how the VA, Veterans Homes, non-profit organizations, and private long-term care facilities are or are not equipped to meet these challenges and what the VA's long-term plans are so all providers understand their respective roles in veterans' care.

No single entity can offer every service for every veteran. As healthcare providers, it is critical that we work together to identify our current and future roles in serving the aging veteran community. This hearing is an excellent opportunity to work toward that goal.

Conclusion

We are in the leading edge of a massive shift in the veteran population demographic. Veterans' healthcare needs and preferences are evolving, and their service providers must anticipate and adapt to those changes. CalVet will continue to collaborate with the VA and with industry leaders to ensure veterans receive the full spectrum of care that they earned in service of their country. Again, thank you again for the opportunity to address the Subcommittee and for convening this hearing on veterans' long-term care.

SOLUTION

Remove Duplication!

Remove the unnecessary 'fluff' in the bill

Redraft H.R. 6823 and S. 3854 to remove all services that are already provided or slated to expand or be implemented.

Office of Community Care payment for nursing home needs resolve, currently VA is not covering nursing home cost as obligated.

info@veteran-warriors.org



Veteran Warriors is a grassroots 501c3 serving Veterans, caregivers, families, and survivors of all eras.