

104TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2313

To authorize the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to expand the scope of services provided to veterans in Vet Centers.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 12, 1995

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs

A BILL

To authorize the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to expand the scope of services provided to veterans in Vet Centers.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SCOPE OF SERVICES PROVIDED IN VET CEN-**
4 **TERS.**

5 (a) EXPANSION OF SERVICES.—Section 1712A of
6 title 38, United States Code, is amended—

7 (1) in subsection (a)(1), by inserting “and, to
8 the extent otherwise authorized by law, may furnish
9 such additional needed services as described in sub-
10 section (i)” in the first sentence after “life”; and

1 (2) by adding at the end the following new sub-
2 sections:

3 “(h) The Secretary may, to the extent resources and
4 facilities are available, furnish to any veteran who served
5 in combat during World War II or the Korean conflict
6 counseling in a center to assist such veteran in overcoming
7 the effects of the veteran’s combat experience.

8 “(i) In operating centers under this section, the Sec-
9 retary may provide (1) preventive health care services, (2)
10 medical services reasonably necessary in preparation for
11 hospital admission, and (3) referral services to assist in
12 obtaining specialized care. The Secretary shall provide
13 such services through such health care personnel as the
14 Secretary determines appropriate.”.

15 (b) REPORT.—Not later than one year after the date
16 of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall submit
17 to the Committees on Veterans’ Affairs of the Senate and
18 House of Representatives a report relating to the imple-
19 mentation of the amendments made by subsection (a). The
20 report shall include the following:

21 (1) The number of veterans provided services
22 described in section 1712A(i) of title 38, United
23 States Code, as added by subsection (a).

24 (2) The number of centers which provided serv-
25 ices described in that section.

- 1 (3) An assessment of the effect providing such
- 2 services has had on access to and timeliness of serv-
- 3 ice delivery.

