

116TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2191

To prohibit the Secretary of Veterans Affairs from denying a veteran benefits administered by the Secretary by reason of the veteran participating in a State-approved marijuana program, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 9, 2019

Mr. STEUBE (for himself and Mr. CISNEROS) introduced the following bill;
which was referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs

A BILL

To prohibit the Secretary of Veterans Affairs from denying a veteran benefits administered by the Secretary by reason of the veteran participating in a State-approved marijuana program, and for other purposes.

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. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Veterans Cannabis Use
5 for Safe Healing Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. VETERAN PARTICIPATION IN STATE-APPROVED**
2 **MARIJUANA PROGRAMS.**

3 (a) PROVISION OF BENEFITS.—Notwithstanding any
4 other provision of law, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs
5 may not deny a veteran any benefit under the laws admin-
6 istered by the Secretary by reason of the veteran partici-
7 pating in a State-approved marijuana program.

8 (b) CONSULTATION.—With respect to a veteran who
9 is enrolled in the system of patient enrollment under sec-
10 tion 1705 of title 38, United States Code, and participates
11 in a State-approved marijuana program, the Secretary
12 shall ensure that physicians and other health care pro-
13 viders of the Veterans Health Administration—

14 (1) discuss marijuana use with the veteran and
15 adjust medical treatment plans accordingly; and

16 (2) record such use in the medical records of
17 the veteran.

18 (c) PROVISION OF INFORMATION.—Notwithstanding
19 any other provision of law, the Secretary shall authorize
20 physicians and other health care providers of the Veterans
21 Health Administration of the Department of Veterans Af-
22 fairs to—

23 (1) provide recommendations and opinions to
24 veterans who are residents of States with State-ap-
25 proved marijuana programs regarding the participa-
26 tion of veterans in such programs; and

1 (2) complete forms reflecting such recommenda-
2 tions and opinions.

3 (d) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

4 (1) The term “marijuana” has the meaning
5 given the term “marihuana” in section 102 of the
6 Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 802).

7 (2) The term “State” has the meaning given
8 that term in section 101 of title 38, United States
9 Code.

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