110th CONGRESS 2d Session H. R. 5730

To direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to display in each prosthetic and orthotic clinic of the Department of Veterans Affairs an Injured and Amputee Veterans Bill of Rights.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

April 8, 2008

Mr. FILNER introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs

A BILL

To direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to display in each prosthetic and orthotic clinic of the Department of Veterans Affairs an Injured and Amputee Veterans Bill of Rights.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. DISPLAY OF INJURED AND AMPUTEE VETERANS BILL OF RIGHTS.

- (a) Establishment- The Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall ensure that the Injured and Amputee Veterans Bill of Rights described in subsection (b) is displayed prominently in each prosthetic and orthotic clinic of the Department of Veterans Affairs.
- (b) Injured and Amputee Veterans Bill of Rights- The Injured and Amputee Veteran Bill of Rights described in this subsection is a sign stating that injured veterans should have the following rights:
 - (1) The right to access the highest quality prosthetic and orthotic care, including the right to the most appropriate technology and best qualified practitioners.
 - (2) The right to continuity of care in the transition from the Department of Defense health program to the Department of Veterans Affairs health care system, including comparable benefits relating to prosthetic and orthotic services.
 - (3) The right to select the practitioner that best meets their orthotic and prosthetic needs, whether or not that practitioner is an employee of the

Department of Veterans Affairs, a private practitioner who has entered into a contract with the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to provide prosthetic and orthotic services, or a private practitioner with specialized expertise.

- (4) The right to consistent and portable health care, including the right to obtain comparable services and technology at any medical facility of the Department of Veterans Affairs across the country.
- (5) The right to timely and efficient prosthetic and orthotic care, including a speedy authorization process with expedited authorization available for veterans visiting from another area.
- (6) The right to play a meaningful role in rehabilitation decisions, including the right to receive a second opinion regarding prosthetic and orthotic treatment options.
- (7) The right to receive appropriate treatment, including the right to receive both a primary prosthesis or orthosis and a functional spare.
- (8) The right to be treated with respect and dignity and have an optimal quality of life both during and after rehabilitation.
- (9) The right to transition and readjust to civilian life in an honorable manner, including by having ample access to vocational rehabilitation, employment programs, and housing assistance.

END