

115TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 7128

To direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to seek to enter into an agreement with a federally funded research and development center to conduct surveys to measure cannabis use by veterans, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NOVEMBER 14, 2018

Mr. MOULTON (for himself, Mr. GAETZ, Mr. CRIST, and Mr. CORREA) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs

A BILL

To direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to seek to enter into an agreement with a federally funded research and development center to conduct surveys to measure cannabis use by veterans, 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 “VA Survey of Cannabis
5 Use Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. SURVEY ON CANNABIS USE BY VETERANS.**

7 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Veterans Affairs
8 shall seek to enter into an agreement with a federally

1 funded research and development center to conduct sur-
2 veys nationwide to measure cannabis use by veterans.

3 (b) SELECTION.—The Secretary shall select a feder-
4 ally funded research and development center under sub-
5 section (a) from among such centers that has—

6 (1) expertise and a record of independent, peer-
7 reviewed publications with respect to—

8 (A) behavioral health research; and

9 (B) conducting independent evaluations of
10 mental health programs using multidisciplinary
11 methods; and

12 (2) an in-depth knowledge of all State medicinal
13 marijuana programs and the ability to tailor the sur-
14 veys under subsection (a) accordingly.

15 (c) CONDUCT OF SURVEYS.—The surveys conducted
16 under subsection (a) shall meet the following criteria:

17 (1) One survey shall collect information from
18 veterans who use cannabis, including both veterans
19 enrolled in the health care system established under
20 section 1705(a) of title 38, United States Code, and
21 veterans who are not so enrolled.

22 (2) One survey shall collect information from
23 health care providers of the Department of Veterans
24 Affairs.

1 (3) Each survey shall be conducted in a manner
2 that ensures the anonymity of the individual being
3 surveyed.

4 (d) MATTERS SURVEYED.—

5 (1) VETERANS.—The survey described in sub-
6 section (c)(1) shall cover the following subjects:

7 (A) The current medicinal cannabis use by
8 the veteran, or the intent or desire by the vet-
9 eran to use medicinal cannabis, and the reasons
10 for such use, intent, or desire.

11 (B) The conditions, symptoms, or both,
12 that the veteran uses cannabis to treat.

13 (C) The types of cannabis and cannabis
14 products used by the veteran, including with re-
15 spect to—

16 (i) tetrahydrocannabinol or cannabidi-
17 ol content;

18 (ii) indica, sativa, mixes, or hybrids;

19 and

20 (iii) flower, oils, hash or kief, con-
21 centrates (wax, shatter, budder), edibles,
22 drinks, tinctures, and topical ointments.

23 (D) Other medications taken by the vet-
24 eran concurrently with cannabis and any medi-

1 cations the veteran stopped using because of
2 the use of cannabis.

3 (E) How the veteran is self-administering
4 medicinal cannabis, including—

5 (i) the method;

6 (ii) the typical times each day the vet-
7 eran self-administers;

8 (iii) the frequency of different prod-
9 ucts per day and for what condition, symp-
10 tom, or both; and

11 (iv) the amounts per product.

12 (F) The ratings and descriptions of the ef-
13 fectiveness of using cannabis to treat condi-
14 tions, symptoms, or both.

15 (G) Any experiences with side effects.

16 (H) The number of different cannabis
17 products tried before settling on the current
18 product.

19 (I) The typical source of medical cannabis
20 (such as a single dispensary, multiple
21 dispensaries, mail order, or other source), the
22 typical purchase frequency, and the typical
23 amount purchased.

24 (J) The sources of information the veteran
25 uses for products and dosages.

1 (K) Factors that influence the choice of
2 the veteran for using a chosen product (such as
3 with respect to the levels of tetrahydrocannabi-
4 nol or cannabidiol content, cost, availability,
5 consistency, or strain).

6 (L) Any other matters determined appro-
7 priate.

8 (2) HEALTH CARE PROVIDERS.—The survey de-
9 scribed in subsection (c)(2) shall cover the following
10 subjects:

11 (A) A description of the experience of the
12 health care provider with respect to patents
13 using medicinal cannabis.

14 (B) A description by the health care pro-
15 vider of how medicinal cannabis is changing pa-
16 tients.

17 (C) A description of how treatment plans
18 have been modified after a veteran discloses
19 using cannabis.

20 (D) Any documentation of the products,
21 dosages, or frequency of such cannabis use in
22 the medical records of the veteran.

23 (E) Reporting of adverse events.

24 (F) The sources of information used by the
25 health care provider with respect to cannabis

1 products and the medical effectiveness of can-
2 nabis.

3 (G) Any other matters determined appro-
4 priate.

5 (e) REPORT.—Not later than one year after the date
6 of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall submit
7 to the Committees on Veterans' Affairs of the Senate and
8 House of Representatives a report on the results of the
9 surveys conducted under this section.

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