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HOUSE BILL NO. 541

House Amendments in [] — February 12, 2018

A *BILL to amend the Code of Virginia by adding a section numbered 2.2-2001.1:1, relating to alternative treatment options for certain veterans.*

Patron Prior to Engrossment—Delegate Freitas

Referred to Committee on Health, Welfare and Institutions

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That the Code of Virginia is amended by adding a section numbered 2.2-2001.1:1 as follows:

§ 2.2-2001.1:1. *Alternative treatment options for certain veterans.*

A. *As used in this section, "alternative treatment" means a therapeutic service that (i) is not part of the standard of medical care established by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs for treating traumatic brain injury or posttraumatic stress disorder but has been shown by at least one scientific or medical peer-reviewed study to have some positive effect on traumatic brain injury or posttraumatic stress disorder and (ii) is provided at the direction and under the supervision of an individual licensed by the Board of Medicine, Nursing, Counseling, Psychology, or Social Work.*

B. *The Department shall [enter into contracts with one or more providers to provide alternative treatment options for veterans who have been certified by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs or any branch of the United States Armed Forces as having a traumatic brain injury or posttraumatic stress disorder consider the efficacy of alternative treatments available for the treatment of traumatic brain injury and posttraumatic stress disorder and report its findings and conclusions to the Chairmen of the House Committee on Health, Welfare and Institutions and the Senate Committee on Education and Health by November 1, 2018] .*

ENGROSSED

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