

PRELIMINARY STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

CARRIER:

House Committee on Veterans and Emergency Preparedness

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: May have fiscal impact, statement not yet issued

SUBSEQUENT REFERRAL: None

Action:

Vote:

Yeas:

Nays:

Exc.:

Prepared By: Bryan Guiney, Administrator

Meeting Dates: 3/26, 4/21

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Urges Congress and Secretary of Veterans Affairs to direct the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs Portland Regional Benefit Office to release data regarding Patient-Centered Community Care program.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Role of Country Veterans’ Service Officers (CVSO)
- Travel time for rural medical care

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: Proposed -1 clarifies language of Patient-Centered Community Care (PC3) program and VA Choice Program

BACKGROUND: Rural veterans often face challenges when accessing medical treatment or procedures from U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) medical centers. The Patient-Centered Community Care (PC3) program has awarded over \$9 billion in contracts to companies to establish local healthcare provider networks to eliminate long travel times to VA medical centers. The VA has yet to provide information showing the number of veterans served by Community-Based Outpatient Clinics at the city, county or state level, the number of providers enrolled by PC3 contractors, waiting times or funds expended by the PC3 contractors.

House Joint Memorial 14 petitions for a release of information regarding the PC3 program.