

American Legion Auxiliary
New Mexico Girls State
Bill Instruction Sheet



Principal Author: Victoria Trujillo

Bill No: _____ Committee: _____

Status:

Passed by: ☐ Committee ☐ House ☐ Senate ☐ Governor

Tabled by: ☐ Committee ☐ House ☐ Senate ☐ Governor

Other: _____

Simple Title of Bill: Bill

1 BILL

2 **70TH SESSION – AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY NEW MEXICO GIRLS STATE – 2017**

3 INTRODUCED BY

4

5

6

7 AN ACT

8 **RELATING TO THE CREATION OF A MOBILE VETERANS HEALTH CARE PROGRAM**

9 **FOR VETERANS WHO CANNOT EASILY ACCESS HOSPITAL CARE; CREATING A**

10 **NEW STATE PROGRAM INTENT ON PROVIDING CHECK-UPS AND OTHER VARIOUS**

11 **SERVICES TO BETTER CARE FOR THE NEEDS OF VETERANS WITHOUT EASY**

12 **ACCESS TO HEALTH CARE. MAKING AN APPROPRIATION.**

13

14 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY NEW

15 MEXICO GIRLS STATE:

1 SECTION 1. DEFINITIONS.

2 “Mobile medical center” is defined as a vehicle that is equipped with all of the necessary
3 tools to administer non-extensive care.

4 “Non-extensive care” as mentioned in this bill is defined as entailing check-ups and simple
5 preventative measures such as vaccinations and disease screenings for various diseases
6 the patient may be susceptible to.

7 “Veteran” is defined by Title 38 of the Code of Federal Regulations as a person who served
8 in the active military, naval, or air service and who was discharged or released under
9 conditions other than dishonorable.

10 SECTION 2. VETERAN MOBILE HEALTH PROGRAM. - A new program named the

11 Veteran Mobile Health Program will be put in place by the State of New Mexico to
12 administer non-extensive medical care to veterans and their families who have trouble
13 getting to a hospital for such care.

14 Trouble getting to a hospital for such care relates to distance from a hospital and travel
15 issues not related to financial issues.

16 Distance from a hospital, meaning living in a rural area that would require a long drive to
17 get to a hospital that could cater to their needs.

18 This new program shall create five mobile medical centers that will travel around the State
19 of New Mexico to administer non-extensive care.

20 Care administered by the mobile medical center shall be free for veterans who take
21 advantage of these services with proof of former service.

22 i. Proof of former service includes discharge forms (showing discharge other than
23 dishonorable discharge may be accepted), identification through driver's license, VA
24 identification cards, or a state license plate showing proof of service.

1 E. This mobile medical center is to travel on a Monday to a Legion Auxiliary Post, then to
2 stay and administer care until Friday when they return to their home health care center.
3 This should occur twice a month.

4 i. Mobile medical center staff may choose their own lodging at this time. The cost of their
5 stay will be at a government contracted rate.

6 ii. Food will be paid for by the government with a government credit card as long as
7 receipts or affidavits are turned in upon returning from a trip

8 iii. Any payments made with the government credit card that are not represented with a
9 receipt or affidavit will be taken from the employee's salary.

10 F. The surrounding areas shall be alerted via advertisements in newspapers,
11 on billboards and a postcard type letter to be received by all in the
12 surrounding area, when the mobile medical center will be in the area so that
13 they may benefit from the mobile medical center.

14 An unsubscription option will be available to those who are not veterans or do not want to
15 take advantage of this opportunity.

16 G. After check-ups are complete and tests are administered, the patients' contact
17 information will be required to warn them of any serious medical problems the medical
18 team discovers.

19 The patient may choose the best way for them to be contacted. If no phone number or
20 email address is available they must provide a house address where they can receive a
21 letter or be visited by the mobile medical center staff (visitation shall only occur if the patient
22 is in serious medical danger outlined in Section 3) to warn them that they will be picked up
23 within the next 24 hours if they choose to use the medical transportation.

24 Patients should be warned during their time at the mobile medical center that if they do not
25 have a phone number or address that they will be visited by mobile medical

center staff should a serious medical complication show through the tests or screenings.

SECTION 3. EXTENSIVE MEDICAL CARE. - Should serious medical problems that require long term or extensive care show on tests and screenings administered at the mobile medical center, the medical center staff shall alert the patient of such medical problems and request an immediate transportation vehicle from their home health care center to take the patient to a hospital in which they could receive the care they need to solve such medical problems or others that may arise.

The severity of the medical problems that arise following tests and screenings will determine the urgency of the transportation vehicle's necessity. In such cases that the medical problems are life threatening, the transportation vehicle should arrive as soon as possible. In such cases that the life of the patient is not in severe danger, an expedited appointment with a health care provider shall be scheduled as the immediate action.

The severity of a certain medical problem will be decided by an index created by the head medical doctor of the veterans mobile health program. This index should clearly determine the severity of any diagnosis that may arise with each type of test or screening used on board the mobile medical center.

Should a patient need to be transported to a hospital for such care, the mobile medical center staff is required to make arrangements with the transportation vehicle and the patient to meet at a certain location to be picked up and transported.

In such cases that the patient would like to transport themselves, the mobile medical center staff shall provide directions to a hospital of the patient's choice that will care for their needs.

The patient may be transported to any hospital that can administer the care they need; this hospital does not have to be a VA hospital.

1 If the patient uses the transportation provided by the mobile medical center, there shall be
2 no cost to the patient as they are still receiving free care from the mobile medical center.
3 If there are multiple hospitals that can care for the patient's needs, the patient may choose
4 which hospital to be taken to unless they do not have the capability to do so (if the patient is
5 unconscious), in which case they'll be taken to the closest hospital.

6 SECTION 4. PATIENT TRANSPORTATION FOR EXTENSIVE MEDICAL CARE. - Should
7 a patient be transported to a healthcare facility to care for their needs, the copays that such
8 health care services require will be as though the patient were at a VA hospital.

9 If the patient has VA health care as their insurance they shall be billed following their
10 insurance guidelines as if the patient was at a VA hospital.

11 If the patient does not have VA health care as their insurance they will be billed as if they
12 were at a VA hospital without such services.

13 If the patient has another insurance provider that supersedes the benefits of the previous
14 two subsections, they may use their insurance to pay for any care they may receive.

15 SECTION 5. APPROPRIATIONS. - The mobile medical center shall be funded and stocked
16 by the main dispatch hospital that sends out the mobile medical center.

17 Between trips, the mobile medical center shall be stocked with materials found at the home
18 health care center.

19 The home health care center shall receive an extra 2% of government funds for healthcare
20 in order to stock materials needed for the mobile medical center program.

21 Gas used for traveling and other needs such as generators shall be paid for using funds
22 allotted to the mobile medical center program, which shall be dictated by the program
23 directors who work at the main dispatch hospital. The funds can be provided in any way,
24 preferably with a program credit or debit card.

- 1 All laws, acts, provisions, or parts of laws contained in the Constitution of the State of New
- 2 Mexico in conflict with any provision of this act are hereby repealed.
- 3 Default Start - This section to be used as written.

