

sionals to develop programs to help implement this section.

“(4) AVAILABILITY IN OTHER LANGUAGES.—The Secretary shall evaluate whether the effectiveness of the program developed under paragraph (1) would be improved by providing materials in languages other than English and take action accordingly[.]”

“(5) REPORT.—Not later than one year after implementation of the program developed under paragraph (1), the Secretary shall submit to Congress a report on the effectiveness of the program, including the extent to which the program is used by low-English-proficient individuals.

“(b) PILOT PROJECT ON POST TRAUMATIC STRESS DISORDER.—

“(1) REQUIREMENT.—The Secretary of Defense shall carry out a pilot project to evaluate the efficacy of various approaches to improving the capability of the military and civilian health care systems to provide early diagnosis and treatment of post traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) and other mental health conditions.

“(2) INTERNET-BASED DIAGNOSIS AND TREATMENT.—The pilot project shall be designed to evaluate—

“(A) Internet-based automated tools available to military and civilian health care providers for the early diagnosis and treatment of post traumatic stress disorder, and for tracking patients who suffer from post traumatic stress disorder; and

“(B) Internet-based tools available to family members of members of the Armed Forces in order to assist such family members in the identification of the emergence of post traumatic stress disorder.

“(3) REPORT.—Not later than June 1, 2006, the Secretary shall submit to the congressional defense committees [Committees on Armed Services and Appropriations of the Senate and the House of Representatives] a report on the pilot project. The report shall include a description of the pilot project, including the location of the pilot project and the scope and objectives of the pilot project.”

#### PROVISION OF DOMICILIARY AND CUSTODIAL CARE FOR CERTAIN CHAMPUS BENEFICIARIES

Pub. L. 106-65, div. A, title VII, §703, Oct. 5, 1999, 113 Stat. 682, as amended by Pub. L. 106-398, §1 [[div. A], title VII, § 701(a), (b), (c)(2)], Oct. 30, 2000, 114 Stat. 1654, 1654A-172, related to the continued provision of domiciliary and custodial care for certain CHAMPUS beneficiaries, prohibited the establishment of a limited transition period for such program, required a survey and report of case management and custodial care policies, and provided for cost limitations for each fiscal year, prior to repeal by Pub. L. 107-107, div. A, title VII, §701(g)(1)(A), Dec. 28, 2001, 115 Stat. 1161.

#### OBSTETRICAL CARE FACILITIES

Pub. L. 89-188, title VI, §610, Sept. 16, 1965, 79 Stat. 818, required that military hospitals in the United States and its possessions be constructed so as to include facilities for obstetrical care, prior to repeal by Pub. L. 97-214, §7(7), July 12, 1982, 96 Stat. 173, eff. Oct. 1, 1982.

### § 1077a. Access to military medical treatment facilities and other facilities

(a) URGENT CARE.—(1) The Secretary of Defense shall ensure that military medical treatment facilities, at locations the Secretary determines appropriate, provide urgent care services for members of the armed forces and covered beneficiaries until 11:00 p.m. each day.

(2) With respect to areas in which a military medical treatment facility covered by paragraph (1) is not located, the Secretary shall ensure that members of the armed forces and covered beneficiaries may access urgent care clinics

through the health care provider network under the TRICARE program.

(3) A covered beneficiary may access urgent care services without the need for preauthorization for such services.

(4) The Secretary shall—

(A) publish information about changes in access to urgent care under the TRICARE program—

(i) on the primary publicly available Internet website of the Department; and

(ii) on the primary publicly available Internet website of each military medical treatment facility; and

(B) ensure that such information is made available on the publicly available Internet website of each current managed care support contractor that has established a health care provider network under the TRICARE program.

(b) NURSE ADVICE LINE.—The Secretary shall ensure that the nurse advice line of the Department directs covered beneficiaries seeking access to care to the source of the most appropriate level of health care required to treat the medical conditions of the beneficiaries, including urgent care services described in subsection (a).

(c) PRIMARY CARE CLINICS.—(1) The Secretary shall ensure that primary care clinics at military medical treatment facilities are available for members of the armed forces and covered beneficiaries between the hours determined appropriate under paragraph (2), including with respect to expanded hours described in subparagraph (B) of such paragraph.

(2)(A) The Secretary shall determine the hours that each primary care clinic at a military medical treatment facility is available for members of the armed forces and covered beneficiaries based on—

(i) the needs of the military medical treatment facility to meet the access standards under the TRICARE Prime program; and

(ii) the primary care utilization patterns of members and covered beneficiaries at such military medical treatment facility.

(B) The primary care clinic hours at a military medical treatment facility determined under subparagraph (A) shall include expanded hours beyond regular business hours during weekdays and the weekend if the Secretary determines under such subparagraph that sufficient demand exists at the military medical treatment facility for such expanded primary care clinic hours.

(Added Pub. L. 114-328, div. A, title VII, §704(a), Dec. 23, 2016, 130 Stat. 2200.)

#### IMPLEMENTATION

Pub. L. 114-328, div. A, title VII, §704(c), Dec. 23, 2016, 130 Stat. 2201, provided that: “The Secretary of Defense shall implement—

“(1) subsection (a) of section 1077a of title 10, United States Code, as added by subsection (a) of this section, by not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act [Dec. 23, 2016]; and

“(2) subsection (c) of such section by not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act.”

**§ 1078. Medical and dental care for dependents: charges**

(a) The Secretary of Defense, after consulting the other administering Secretaries, shall prescribe fair charges for inpatient medical and dental care given to dependents under section 1076 of this title. The charge or charges prescribed shall be applied equally to all classes of dependents.

(b) As a restraint on excessive demands for medical and dental care under section 1076 of this title, uniform minimal charges may be imposed for outpatient care. Charges may not be more than such amounts, if any, as the Secretary of Defense may prescribe after consulting the other administering Secretaries, and after a finding that such charges are necessary.

(c) Amounts received for subsistence and medical and dental care given under section 1076 of this title shall be deposited to the credit of the appropriation supporting the maintenance and operation of the facility furnishing the care.

(Added Pub. L. 85-861, §1(25)(B), Sept. 2, 1958, 72 Stat. 1448; amended Pub. L. 89-614, §2(5), Sept. 30, 1966, 80 Stat. 863; Pub. L. 96-513, title V, §511(36), Dec. 12, 1980, 94 Stat. 2923; Pub. L. 98-557, §19(6), Oct. 30, 1984, 98 Stat. 2869.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

Revised section	Source (U.S. Code)	Source (Statutes at Large)
1078(a) .....	37:403(c).	June 7, 1956, ch. 374, §103(c)(d), (e), 70 Stat. 251.
1078(b) .....	37:403(d).	
1078(c) .....	37:403(e).	

Appropriate references are made to dental care throughout the section to reflect the fact that in certain limited situations, dependents are entitled to dental care under 37:403(h)(4), restated as section 1077(d) of this title.

In subsection (b), the word "special" is omitted as surplusage.

PRIOR PROVISIONS

A prior section 1078, act Aug. 10, 1956, ch. 1041, 70A Stat. 84, prescribed instructions for marking ballots, prior to repeal by Pub. L. 85-861, §36B(5), Sept. 2, 1958, 72 Stat. 1570, as superseded by the Federal Voting Assistance Act of 1955 which is classified to subchapter I-D (§1973cc et seq.) of chapter 20 of Title 42, The Public Health and Welfare.

AMENDMENTS

1984—Subsecs. (a), (b). Pub. L. 98-557 substituted reference to other administering Secretaries for reference to Secretary of Health and Human Services.

1980—Subsecs. (a), (b). Pub. L. 96-513 substituted "Secretary of Health and Human Services" for "Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare".

1966—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 89-614 substituted "The charge or charges prescribed shall be applied equally to all classes of dependents" for "Charges shall be the same for all dependents".

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1980 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 96-513 effective Dec. 12, 1980, see section 701(b)(3) of Pub. L. 96-513, set out as a note under section 101 of this title.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1966 AMENDMENT

For effective date of amendment by Pub. L. 89-614, see section 3 of Pub. L. 89-614, set out as a note under section 1071 of this title.

**§ 1078a. Continued health benefits coverage**

(a) PROVISION OF CONTINUED HEALTH COVERAGE.—The Secretary of Defense shall implement and carry out a program of continued health benefits coverage in accordance with this section to provide persons described in subsection (b) with temporary health benefits comparable to the health benefits provided for former civilian employees of the Federal Government and other persons under section 8905a of title 5.

(b) ELIGIBLE PERSONS.—The persons referred to in subsection (a) are the following:

(1) A member of the uniformed services who—

(A) is discharged or released from active duty (or full-time National Guard duty), whether voluntarily or involuntarily, under other than adverse conditions, as characterized by the Secretary concerned;

(B) immediately preceding that discharge or release, is entitled to medical and dental care under section 1074(a) of this title (except in the case of a member discharged or released from full-time National Guard duty); and

(C) after that discharge or release and any period of transitional health care provided under section 1145(a) of this title, would not otherwise be eligible for any benefits under this chapter.

(2) A member of the Selected Reserve of the Ready Reserve of a reserve component of the armed forces who—

(A) is discharged or released from service in the Selected Reserve, whether voluntarily or involuntarily, under other than adverse conditions, as characterized by the Secretary concerned;

(B) immediately preceding that discharge or release, is enrolled in TRICARE Reserve Select; and

(C) after that discharge or release, would not otherwise be eligible for any benefits under this chapter.

(3) A person who—

(A) ceases to meet the requirements for being considered an unmarried dependent child of a member or former member of the uniformed services under section 1072(2)(D) of this title or ceases to meet the requirements for being considered an unmarried dependent under section 1072(2)(I) of this title;

(B) on the day before ceasing to meet those requirements, was covered under a health benefits plan under this chapter or transitional health care under section 1145(a) of this title as a dependent of the member or former member; and

(C) would not otherwise be eligible for any benefits under this chapter.

(4) A person who—

(A) is an unremarried former spouse of a member or former member of the uniformed services; and

(B) on the day before the date of the final decree of divorce, dissolution, or annulment was covered under a health benefits plan under this chapter or transitional health