

1 **SEC. 702. MENTAL HEALTH CARE TREATMENT THROUGH**  
2 **TELEMEDICINE.**

3 (a) PROVISION OF MENTAL HEALTH CARE VIA  
4 TELEMEDICINE.—

5 (1) IN GENERAL.—In carrying out the Transi-  
6 tional Assistance Management Program, the Sec-  
7 retary of Defense may extend the coverage of such  
8 program for covered individuals for an additional  
9 180 days for mental health care provided through  
10 telemedicine.

11 (2) REPORT.—If the Secretary extends coverage  
12 under paragraph (1), by not later than one year  
13 after the date of carrying out such extension, the  
14 Secretary shall submit to the congressional defense  
15 committees a report that includes the following:

16 (A) The rate at which individuals are using  
17 the extended coverage provided pursuant to  
18 paragraph (1).

19 (B) A description of the mental health care  
20 provided pursuant to such subsection.

21 (C) An analysis of how the Secretary and  
22 the Secretary of Veterans Affairs coordinate the  
23 continuation of care with respect to veterans  
24 who are no longer eligible for the Transitional  
25 Assistance Management Program.

1 (D) Any other factors the Secretary of De-  
2 fense determines necessary with respect to ex-  
3 tending coverage of the Transitional Assistance  
4 Management Program.

5 (3) TERMINATION.—The authority of the Sec-  
6 retary to carry out subsection (a) shall terminate on  
7 December 31, 2018.

8 (b) REPORT ON USE OF TELEMEDICINE.—

9 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 270 days  
10 after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Sec-  
11 retary shall submit to the congressional defense com-  
12 mittees a report on the use of telemedicine to im-  
13 prove the diagnosis and treatment of post-traumatic  
14 stress disorder, traumatic brain injuries, and mental  
15 health conditions.

16 (2) ELEMENTS.—The report under paragraph  
17 (1) shall address the following:

18 (A) The current status, as of the date of  
19 the report, of telemedicine initiatives within the  
20 Department of Defense to diagnose and treat  
21 post-traumatic stress disorder, traumatic brain  
22 injuries, and mental health conditions.

23 (B) Plans for integrating telemedicine into  
24 the military health care system, including in  
25 health care delivery, records management, med-

1           ical education, public health, and private sector  
2           partnerships.

3           (C) The status of the integration of the  
4           telemedicine initiatives of the Department with  
5           the telemedicine initiatives of the Department  
6           of Veterans Affairs.

7           (D) A description and assessment of chal-  
8           lenges to the use of telemedicine as a means of  
9           in-home treatment, outreach in rural areas, and  
10          in settings that provide group treatment or  
11          therapy in connection with treatment of post-  
12          traumatic stress disorder, traumatic brain inju-  
13          ries, and mental health conditions, and a de-  
14          scription and assessment of efforts to address  
15          such challenges.

16          (E) A description of privacy issues related  
17          to the use of telemedicine for the treatment of  
18          post-traumatic stress disorder, traumatic brain  
19          injuries, and mental health conditions, and rec-  
20          ommendations for mechanisms to remedy any  
21          privacy concerns relating to such use of tele-  
22          medicine.

23          (F) A description of professional licensing  
24          issues with respect to licensed medical providers  
25          who provide treatment using telemedicine.

1 (c) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

2 (1) The term “covered individual” means an in-  
3 dividual who—

4 (A) during the initial 180-day period of  
5 being enrolled in the Transitional Assistance  
6 Management Program, received any mental  
7 health care; or

8 (B) during the one-year period preceding  
9 separation or discharge from the Armed Forces,  
10 received any mental health care.

11 (2) The term “telemedicine” means the use by  
12 a health care provider of telecommunications to as-  
13 sist in the diagnosis or treatment of a patient’s med-  
14 ical condition.

15 **SEC. 703. COMPREHENSIVE POLICY ON IMPROVEMENTS TO**  
16 **CARE AND TRANSITION OF MEMBERS OF THE**  
17 **ARMED FORCES WITH UROTRAUMA.**

18 (a) COMPREHENSIVE POLICY REQUIRED.—

19 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days  
20 after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Sec-  
21 retary of Defense and the Secretary of Veterans Af-  
22 fairs shall jointly develop and implement a com-  
23 prehensive policy on improvements to the care, man-  
24 agement, and transition of recovering members of  
25 the Armed Forces with urotrauma.