

109<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESS  
2<sup>D</sup> SESSION

# H. R. 6319

To require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to establish centers to provide enhanced services to veterans with amputations and prosthetic devices, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NOVEMBER 13, 2006

Mr. LYNCH introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs

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## A BILL

To require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to establish centers to provide enhanced services to veterans with amputations and prosthetic devices, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Veterans Amputee and  
5 Rehabilitation Act of 2006”.

1 **SEC. 2. AMPUTATION AND PROSTHETIC REHABILITATION**  
2 **CENTERS IN DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AF-**  
3 **FAIRS.**

4 (a) **ESTABLISHMENT.**—The Secretary of Veterans  
5 Affairs shall establish in the Veterans Health Administra-  
6 tion not less than five centers to provide enhanced reha-  
7 bilitation services to veterans who have suffered amputa-  
8 tions or who are equipped with prosthetic devices. Each  
9 such center shall be established at a health-care facility  
10 of the Department of Veterans Affairs. Each such center  
11 shall be known as an “Amputation and Prosthetic Reha-  
12 bilitation Center”.

13 (b) **PURPOSES.**—The purposes of the centers estab-  
14 lished pursuant to this section are—

15 (1) to provide regional clinical facilities of the  
16 Department of Veterans Affairs with special exper-  
17 tise in prosthetics, rehabilitation with the use of  
18 prosthetics, treatment, and coordination of care for  
19 veterans who have suffered an amputation of any  
20 functional part of the body due to a service-con-  
21 nected disability;

22 (2) to provide state-of-the art prosthetic limb  
23 evaluations and fabrications for such veterans; and

24 (3) to provide information and supportive serv-  
25 ices to all facilities of the Department of Veterans

1 Affairs concerning the care and treatment of such  
2 veterans who are equipped with a prosthetic device.

3 (c) GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION.—In order to estab-  
4 lish such centers so as to be accessible to as many veterans  
5 as possible in the United States, the Secretary shall estab-  
6 lish at least one such center within each of the following  
7 geographic services areas of the Veterans Health Adminis-  
8 tration: Veterans Integrated Service Network 1 (New  
9 England), Veterans Integrated Service Network 8 (Flor-  
10 ida), Veterans Integrated Service Network 17 (Texas),  
11 Veterans Integrated Service Network 22 (Southern Cali-  
12 fornia), and Veterans Integrated Service Network 23  
13 (Midwest).

14 (d) STAFF AND RESOURCES.—The Secretary shall  
15 ensure that each center established pursuant to this sec-  
16 tion includes the following:

17 (1) A modern, well-equipped, and appropriately  
18 certified laboratory facility capable of providing  
19 state-of-the-art and complex prosthetic devices to all  
20 veterans with an amputation due to a service-con-  
21 nected disability.

22 (2) Certified and experienced prosthetists, in-  
23 cluding prosthetists with certifications in new fab-  
24 rication techniques.

1           (3) An accredited Physical Medicine and Reha-  
2           bilitation service with staff who are well-trained in  
3           current prosthetic services and emerging trends for  
4           treatment of amputations.

5           (4) A modern gait laboratory, permanently lo-  
6           cated within the center.

7           (e) AVAILABILITY OF APPROPRIATIONS.—Amounts  
8           appropriated pursuant to this section shall remain avail-  
9           able until expended.

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