

105TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 2397

To amend title 38, United States Code, to extend eligibility for hospital care and medical services under chapter 17 of that title to veterans who have been awarded the Purple Heart, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 4, 1997

Mr. CHRISTENSEN (for himself and Mr. BLILEY) introduced the following bill;  
which was referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs

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## A BILL

To amend title 38, United States Code, to extend eligibility for hospital care and medical services under chapter 17 of that title to veterans who have been awarded the Purple Heart, 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. ELIGIBILITY OF VETERANS FOR HOSPITAL**  
4 **CARE AND MEDICAL SERVICES BASED ON**  
5 **AWARD OF PURPLE HEART.**

6 (a) ELIGIBILITY.—Section 1710(a)(2) of title 38,  
7 United States Code, is amended—

1           (1) by striking out “or” at the end of subpara-  
2 graph (F);

3           (2) by redesignating subparagraph (G) as sub-  
4 paragraph (H); and

5           (3) by inserting after subparagraph (F) the fol-  
6 lowing new subparagraph (G):

7                   “(G) who has been awarded the Purple  
8 Heart; or”.

9           (b) ENROLLMENT PRIORITY.—Section 1705(a)(3) of  
10 such title is amended—

11           (1) by striking out “and veterans” and insert-  
12 ing in lieu thereof “veterans”; and

13           (2) by inserting “, and veterans whose eligibility  
14 for care and services under this chapter is based  
15 solely on the award of the Purple Heart” before the  
16 period at the end.

17           (c) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—(1) Section  
18 1722(a) of such title is amended by striking out “section  
19 1710(a)(2)(G)” and inserting in lieu thereof “section  
20 1710(a)(2)(H)”.

21           (2) Section 5317(e)(3) of such title is amended by  
22 striking out “subsections (a)(2)(G),” and inserting in lieu  
23 thereof “subsections (a)(2)(H),”.

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