

116TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 4908

To amend title 38, United States Code, to prohibit the collection of a health care copayment by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs from a veteran who is a member of an Indian tribe.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

OCTOBER 29, 2019

Mr. GALLEGO (for himself, Mr. COOK, Ms. HAALAND, Mr. COLE, Mr. KHANNA, and Mr. GRIJALVA) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs

A BILL

To amend title 38, United States Code, to prohibit the collection of a health care copayment by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs from a veteran who is a member of an Indian tribe.

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 “Native American Vet-
5 eran Parity in Access to Care Today Act” or “Native
6 American PACT Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. PROHIBITION ON COLLECTION OF A HEALTH CARE**
2 **COPAYMENT BY THE SECRETARY OF VET-**
3 **ERANS AFFAIRS FROM A VETERAN WHO IS A**
4 **MEMBER OF AN INDIAN TRIBE.**

5 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 1730A of title 38, United
6 States Code, is amended—

7 (1) in the heading, by striking “**catastroph-**
8 **ically disabled**” and inserting “**certain**”;

9 (2) by inserting “(a) PROHIBITION.—” before
10 “Notwithstanding”;

11 (3) by striking “a veteran who is catastroph-

12 ically disabled, as defined by the Secretary,” and in-

13 serting “a covered veteran”; and

14 (4) by adding at the end the following new sub-

15 section:

16 “(b) COVERED VETERAN DEFINED.—In this section,
17 the term ‘covered veteran’ means a veteran who—

18 “(1) is catastrophically disabled, as defined by
19 the Secretary; or

20 “(2) is an Indian or urban Indian, as those
21 terms are defined in section 4 of the Indian Health
22 Care Improvement Act (Public Law 94–437; 25
23 U.S.C. 1603).”.

24 (b) TECHNICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections
25 at the beginning of chapter 17 of such title is amended

- 1 by striking the item relating to section 1730A and insert-
- 2 ing the following:

“1730A. Prohibition on collection of copayments from certain veterans.”.

