

## Board of Commissioners of Cook County

## Legislation Details

File #:	19-3108	Version: 1	Name:	URGING THE ILLINOIS CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION TO COSPONSOR AND SUPPORT H.R. 96 (VETERAN'S DENTAL CARE			
Туре:	Resolution		Status:	Approved			
File created:	4/22/2019		In control:	Veterans Committee			
On agenda:	5/23/2019		Final action:	7/25/2019			
Title:	PROPOSED RESOLUTION						
	URGING THE ILLINOIS CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION TO COSPONSOR AND SUPPORT H.R. 96 (VETERAN'S DENTAL CARE)						
	WHEREAS, The purpose of the Veteran's Administration is, in the words of Abraham Lincoln, "To care for him who shall have borne the battle and for his widow, and his orphan"; and						
	WHEREAS, The Veterans Administration provides health care to many Veterans through its 1,250 health care facilities, including 172 VA Medical Centers and 1,069 outpatient sites of care of varying complexity; and						
	WHEREAS, After serving our Country, our Veterans have earned the very best healthcare possible, something the Veteran's Administrations has pledged to provide; and						
	WHEREAS, Despite providing various types of healthcare to over 9 million Veterans, the Veteran's Health Administration (VHA) fails to provide dental care to most of those Veterans; and						
	WHEREAS, According to the VHA's own statistics, while over 9 million Veterans are eligible for healthcare under the VHA, only about 500,000, or 5.6%, of those are receiving dental care, as the qualifications require a Veteran to be 100% disabled or have been a POW to receive full dental care; and						
	WHEREAS, While Veterans are able to purchase dental insurance through the VA Dental Insurance Program (VADIP), it is not an affordable option, leaving Veterans with no other choice but to walk around with rotted teeth and other signs of a lack of dental care; and						
	WHEREAS, Dental health has been proven to affect other aspects of health including cancer, Alzheimer's, diabetes and more. Good dental care can prevent many of these diseases, leading the VA to save money on treating future diseases; and						
	WHEREAS, According to the 2016 Oral Health in Illinois Report, in 2015, over one third of adults in Illinois (36%) reported not having visited the dentist in the past year, with lack of insurance being one of the barriers to dental care; and						
	WHEREAS, H.R. 96 introduced by U.S. Rep. Julia Brownley would amend Title 38, USC, to require the Veteran's Administration to furnish dental care in the same manner as any other medical service, giving more Veterans access to full dental care that they severely need; and						
	NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the President and members of the Cook County Board of Commissioners do hereby recognize the right of all Veterans to have full coverage for dental care; and						
	BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Cook County Board of Commissioners urges the Illinois Congressional Delegation to sign on as co-sponsors to H.R. 96 and support it in any manner possible						

to ensure that our Veterans receive the proper and sufficient dental care that they deserve; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this text be spread upon the official proceedings of this Honorable Body and copies of this resolution be presented to U.S. Senator Dick Durbin, and U.S. Representative Bobby Rush as representatives of the delegation.

Sponsors:LUIS ARROYO JR, TONI PRECKWINKLE (President), ALMA E. ANAYA, SCOTT R. BRITTON, JOHN<br/>P. DALEY, DENNIS DEER, BRIDGET DEGNEN, BRIDGET GAINER, BRANDON JOHNSON, BILL<br/>LOWRY, DONNA MILLER, STANLEY MOORE, KEVIN B. MORRISON, SEAN M. MORRISON,<br/>PETER N. SILVESTRI, DEBORAH SIMS, LARRY SUFFREDIN, JEFFREY R. TOBOLSKI

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## Attachments:

Date	Ver.	Action By	Action	Result
7/25/2019	1	Board of Commissioners	approve	Pass
7/24/2019	1	Veterans Committee	recommend for approval	Pass
5/23/2019	1	Board of Commissioners	refer	Pass