



H.R. 6845
**No Coronavirus Copays for
Veterans Act**

COSPONSORS

This bipartisan legislation was introduced with Representatives Julia Brownley (D-CA), Lee Zeldin (R-NY), and Brian Fitzpatrick (R-PA). An updated list of cosponsors can be found [here](#). The Senate companion was introduced by Senators Tammy Duckworth (D-IL), Susan Collins (R-ME), and Jon Tester (D-MT).

BACKGROUND

According to U.S. Department of Health and Human Services officials, a “safe and effective vaccine for SARS-CoV-2 [commonly referred to as “coronavirus” and “COVID-19”] will be essential to stopping the spread of infection, reducing rates of morbidity and mortality, and preventing future outbreaks.” Recognizing the critical importance of vaccinating the United States population as rapidly as possible once a vaccine is ready, the CARES Act included provisions to provide free coverage of the eventual COVID-19 vaccine without any form of cost-sharing. However, although these provisions applied to Americans with group and individual insurance plans, Medicare, and Medicare Advantage, veterans were excluded.

The No Coronavirus Copays for Veterans Act would close the CARES Act loophole to ensure that veterans receiving care through the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) do not face any copayment or other form of cost sharing for vaccines or other forms of qualifying preventive services related to COVID-19.

It is unacceptable that veterans who have served our country would bear financial burdens that most civilians do not have to worry about. It is also dangerous for all Americans if any members of our community face heightened financial barriers to accessing a COVID-19 vaccine once one is ready. In order to finally defeat COVID-19, we need to protect our entire population. The No Coronavirus Copays for Veterans Act ensures that our veterans receive the COVID-19 preventive services they need and deserve.

In addition to the No Coronavirus Copays for Veterans Act, Underwood and Duckworth have introduced [H.R. 3932](#), the Veterans Preventive Health Coverage Fairness Act. This bipartisan bill closes the copay loophole for all recommended preventive services for veterans. These services are already covered without cost sharing by nearly all private insurance companies due to requirements under the Affordable Care Act. The Veterans Preventive Health Coverage Fairness Act would ensure parity by removing copay requirements for veterans for preventive services and medications recommended by the U.S. Preventive Services Task Force, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and the Health Resources and Services Administration.

ENDORISING ORGANIZATIONS

The No Coronavirus Copays for Veterans Act is endorsed by American Veterans (AMVETS) and the Service Women’s Action Network (SWAN).

CONTACT

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