

HEALTH CARE REIT INC /DE/  
Form 8-K  
August 22, 2012

**UNITED STATES**  
**SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**

Washington, D.C. 20549

**FORM 8-K**

**CURRENT REPORT**

Pursuant to Section 13 OR 15(d) of The  
Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Date of Report (Date of earliest event reported) August 21, 2012

**Health Care REIT, Inc.**

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

**Delaware**  
(State or other jurisdiction  
of incorporation)

**1-8923**  
(Commission  
File Number)

**34-1096634**  
(IRS Employer  
Identification No.)

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**4500 Dorr Street, Toledo, Ohio**  
(Address of principal executive offices)

**Registrant's telephone number, including area code (419) 247-2800**

**43615**  
(Zip Code)

(Former name or former address, if changed since last report.)

Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation of the registrant under any of the following provisions (see General Instruction A.2. below):

- Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)
- Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)
- Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))
- Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))

**Item 5.02 *Departure of Directors or Certain Officers; Election of Directors; Appointment of Certain Officers; Compensatory Arrangements of Certain Officers.***

On August 21, 2012, Daniel A. Decker resigned from the Board of Directors of Health Care REIT, Inc. (the Company) effective immediately in order to devote more time to his business commitments associated with CoastWood Senior Housing Partners, LLC. Prior to his resignation, Mr. Decker served as a member of the Company's Audit, Nominating/Corporate Governance, Investment and Planning Committees. Mr. Decker's resignation is not due to any disagreement with the Company on any matter relating to the Company's operations, policies or practices.

**SIGNATURE**

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, the Registrant has duly caused this Report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned hereunto duly authorized.

HEALTH CARE REIT, INC.

By: /s/ GEORGE L. CHAPMAN

George L. Chapman

Its: Chairman of the Board, Chief Executive Officer  
and President

Dated: August 22, 2012