

110TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2434

To amend title 38, United States Code, to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to provide regular notice to individuals submitting claims for benefits administered by the Secretary on the status of such claims.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 22, 2007

Mrs. DRAKE introduced the following bill; which was referred to the
Committee on Veterans' Affairs

A BILL

To amend title 38, United States Code, to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to provide regular notice to individuals submitting claims for benefits administered by the Secretary on the status of such claims.

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 “Veterans Right to
5 Know Act of 2007”.

1 **SEC. 2. REQUIREMENT OF SECRETARY OF VETERANS AF-**
2 **FAIRS TO PROVIDE REGULAR NOTICE TO**
3 **CLAIMANTS OF BENEFITS ADMINISTERED BY**
4 **THE SECRETARY OF STATUS OF CLAIM.**

5 (a) NOTICE REQUIREMENT.—Chapter 51 of title 38,
6 United States Code, is amended by inserting after section
7 5102 the following new section:

8 **“§ 5102A. Notice to claimants of status of claims**

9 “(a) NOTICE REQUIRED.—For any claim for a ben-
10 efit under a law administered by the Secretary with re-
11 spect to which the Secretary has made no decision, the
12 Secretary shall provide to the claimant (and to the claim-
13 ant’s representative) notice of the status of the claim,
14 using the method selected by the claimant pursuant to
15 subsection (b), by not later than the date that is 60 days
16 after the date on which the claim was submitted and every
17 60 days thereafter until the Secretary makes a decision
18 with respect to the claim, unless the claimant chooses not
19 to receive such notice pursuant to such subsection.

20 “(b) METHOD OF NOTICE.—When a person submits
21 a claim for a benefit under a law administered by the Sec-
22 retary, the Secretary shall furnish such person, free of all
23 expense, notice of the Secretary’s requirement to provide
24 notice under subsection (a) and an appropriate form on
25 which the person may choose a preferred method of receiv-
26 ing such notice or not to receive such notice.”.

1 (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections
2 at the beginning of such chapter is amended by inserting
3 after the item relating to section 5102 the following new
4 item:

“5102A. Notice to claimants of status of claims.”.

5 (c) DEADLINE FOR IMPLEMENTATION.—The Sec-
6 retary of Veterans Affairs shall implement the notice re-
7 quirement under section 5102A of title 38, United States
8 Code, as added by subsection (a), by not later than 60
9 days after the date of the enactment of this Act.

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