

110TH CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

H. R. 3889

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MAY 21, 2008

Received; read twice and referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs

AN ACT

To amend title 38, United States Code, to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to conduct a longitudinal study of the vocational rehabilitation programs administered by the Secretary.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

1 **SECTION 1. LONGITUDINAL STUDY OF DEPARTMENT OF**
2 **VETERANS AFFAIRS VOCATIONAL REHABILI-**
3 **TATION PROGRAMS.**

4 (a) **STUDY REQUIRED.**—Chapter 31 of title 38,
5 United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the
6 following new section:

7 **“§ 3122. Longitudinal study of vocational rehabilita-**
8 **tion programs**

9 “(a) **STUDY REQUIRED.**—(1) Subject to the
10 availability of appropriated funds, the Secretary shall con-
11 duct a longitudinal study of a statistically valid sample
12 of each of the groups of individuals described in paragraph
13 (2). The Secretary shall study each such group over a pe-
14 riod of at least 20 years.

15 “(2) The groups of individuals described in this para-
16 graph are the following:

17 “(A) Individuals who begin participating in a
18 vocational rehabilitation program under this chapter
19 during fiscal year 2009.

20 “(B) Individuals who begin participating in
21 such a program during fiscal year 2011.

22 “(C) Individuals who begin participating in
23 such a program during fiscal year 2014.

24 “(b) **ANNUAL REPORTS.**—By not later than July 1
25 of each year covered by the study required under sub-
26 section (a), the Secretary shall submit to the Committees

1 on Veterans' Affairs of the Senate and House of Rep-
2 resentatives a report on the study during the preceding
3 year.

4 “(c) CONTENTS OF REPORT.—The Secretary shall
5 include in the report required under subsection (b) any
6 data the Secretary determines is necessary to determine
7 the long-term outcomes of the individuals participating in
8 the vocational rehabilitation programs under this chapter.
9 The Secretary may add data elements from time to time
10 as necessary. In addition, each such report shall contain
11 the following information:

12 “(1) The number of individuals participating in
13 vocational rehabilitation programs under this chap-
14 ter who suspended participation in such a program
15 during the year covered by the report.

16 “(2) The average number of months such indi-
17 viduals served on active duty.

18 “(3) The distribution of disability rating of
19 such individuals.

20 “(4) The types of other benefits administered
21 by the Secretary received by such individuals.

22 “(5) The types of social security benefits re-
23 ceived by such individuals.

24 “(6) Any unemployment benefits received by
25 such individuals.

1 “(7) The average number of months such indi-
2 viduals were employed during the year covered by
3 the report.

4 “(8) The average annual starting and ending
5 salaries such individuals who were employed during
6 the year covered by the report.

7 “(9) The number of such individuals enrolled in
8 an institution of higher learning, as that term is de-
9 fined in section 3452(f) of this title.

10 “(10) The average number of academic credit
11 hours, degrees, and certificates obtained by such in-
12 dividuals during the year covered by the report.

13 “(11) The average number of visits such indi-
14 viduals made to Department medical facilities during
15 the year covered by the report.

16 “(12) The average number of visits such indi-
17 viduals made to non-Department medical facilities
18 during the year covered by the report.

19 “(13) The average annual income of such indi-
20 viduals.

21 “(14) The average total household income of
22 such individuals for the year covered by the report.

23 “(15) The percentage of such individuals who
24 own their principal residences.

1 “(16) The average number of dependents of
2 each such veteran.”.

3 (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections
4 at the beginning of such chapter is amended by adding
5 at the end the following new item:

“3122. Longitudinal study of vocational rehabilitation programs.”.

Passed the House of Representatives May 20, 2008.

Attest: LORRAINE C. MILLER,
Clerk.