

Union Calendar No. 401

110TH CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

H. R. 3889

[Report No. 110-640]

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.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

OCTOBER 18, 2007

Mr. BOOZMAN introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs

MAY 15, 2008

Additional sponsor: Mr. BUYER

MAY 15, 2008

Reported with an amendment, committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union, and ordered to be printed

[Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert the part printed in *italie*]

A BILL

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.**—The Secretary shall con-
10 duct a longitudinal study of a statistically valid sample
11 of the veterans who begin participating in a vocational re-
12 habilitation program under this chapter during fiscal year
13 2008. The Secretary shall conduct such study over a pe-
14 riod of at least 20 years.

15 “(b) **ANNUAL REPORTS.**—By not later than July 1
16 of each year covered by the study required under sub-
17 section (a), the Secretary shall submit to the Committees
18 on Veterans’ Affairs of the Senate and House of Rep-
19 resentatives a report on the study during the preceding
20 year.

21 “(c) **CONTENTS OF REPORT.**—The Secretary shall
22 include in the report required under subsection (b) any
23 data the Secretary determines is necessary to determine
24 the long-term outcomes of the veterans participating in
25 the vocational rehabilitation programs under this chapter.
26 The Secretary may add data elements from time to time

1 as necessary. Each such report shall contain the following
2 information:

3 “(1) The number of veterans participating in
4 vocational rehabilitation programs under this chap-
5 ter who suspended participation in such a program
6 during the year covered by the report.

7 “(2) The average number of months such vet-
8 erans served on active duty.

9 “(3) The average disability rating of such vet-
10 erans.

11 “(4) The types of other benefits administered
12 by the Secretary received by such veterans.

13 “(5) The types of social security benefits re-
14 ceived by such veterans.

15 “(6) Any unemployment benefits received by
16 such veterans.

17 “(7) The average number of months such vet-
18 erans were employed during the year covered by the
19 report.

20 “(8) The average annual starting and ending
21 salaries such veterans who were employed during the
22 year covered by the report.

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

1 **“§ 3122. Longitudinal study of vocational rehabilita-**
2 **tion programs**

3 “(a) *STUDY REQUIRED.*—(1) *Subject to the availability*
4 *of appropriated funds, the Secretary shall conduct a longi-*
5 *tudinal study of a statistically valid sample of each of the*
6 *groups of individuals described in paragraph (2). The Sec-*
7 *retary shall study each such group over a period of at least*
8 *20 years.*

9 “(2) *The groups of individuals described in this para-*
10 *graph are the following:*

11 “(A) *Individuals who begin participating in a*
12 *vocational rehabilitation program under this chapter*
13 *during fiscal year 2009.*

14 “(B) *Individuals who begin participating in*
15 *such a program during fiscal year 2011.*

16 “(C) *Individuals who begin participating in*
17 *such a program during fiscal year 2014.*

18 “(b) *ANNUAL REPORTS.*—*By not later than July 1 of*
19 *each year covered by the study required under subsection*
20 *(a), the Secretary shall submit to the Committees on Vet-*
21 *erans’ Affairs of the Senate and House of Representatives*
22 *a report on the study during the preceding year.*

23 “(c) *CONTENTS OF REPORT.*—*The Secretary shall in-*
24 *clude in the report required under subsection (b) any data*
25 *the Secretary determines is necessary to determine the long-*
26 *term outcomes of the individuals participating in the voca-*

1 *tional rehabilitation programs under this chapter. The Sec-*
2 *retary may add data elements from time to time as nec-*
3 *essary. In addition, each such report shall contain the fol-*
4 *lowing information:*

5 “(1) *The number of individuals participating in*
6 *vocational rehabilitation programs under this chapter*
7 *who suspended participation in such a program dur-*
8 *ing the year covered by the report.*

9 “(2) *The average number of months such indi-*
10 *viduals served on active duty.*

11 “(3) *The distribution of disability rating of such*
12 *individuals.*

13 “(4) *The types of other benefits administered by*
14 *the Secretary received by such individuals.*

15 “(5) *The types of social security benefits received*
16 *by such individuals.*

17 “(6) *Any unemployment benefits received by*
18 *such individuals.*

19 “(7) *The average number of months such indi-*
20 *viduals were employed during the year covered by the*
21 *report.*

22 “(8) *The average annual starting and ending*
23 *salaries such individuals who were employed during*
24 *the year covered by the report.*

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

4 “(10) *The average number of academic credit*
5 *hours, degrees, and certificates obtained by such indi-*
6 *viduals during the year covered by the report.*

7 “(11) *The average number of visits such individ-*
8 *uals made to Department medical facilities during*
9 *the year covered by the report.*

10 “(12) *The average number of visits such individ-*
11 *uals made to non-Department medical facilities dur-*
12 *ing the year covered by the report.*

13 “(13) *The average annual income of such indi-*
14 *viduals.*

15 “(14) *The average total household income of such*
16 *individuals for the year covered by the report.*

17 “(15) *The percentage of such individuals who*
18 *own their principal residences.*

19 “(16) *The average number of dependents of each*
20 *such veteran.”.*

21 (b) *CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections at*
22 *the beginning of such chapter is amended by adding at the*
23 *end the following new item:*

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

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