

Union Calendar No.

116TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2372

[Report No. 116-]

To direct the Comptroller General of the United States to conduct an assessment of all memoranda of understanding and memoranda of agreement between Under Secretary of Health and non-Department of Veterans Affairs entities relating to suicide prevention and mental health services.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 25, 2019

Ms. UNDERWOOD introduced the following bill; which was referred to the
Committee on Veterans' Affairs

MAY --, 2019

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 italics]

[For text of introduced bill, see copy of bill as introduced on April 25, 2019]

A BILL

To direct the Comptroller General of the United States to conduct an assessment of all memoranda of understanding and memoranda of agreement between Under Secretary of Health and non-Department of Veterans Affairs entities relating to suicide prevention and mental health services.

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’ Care Quality*
5 *Transparency Act”.*

6 **SEC. 2. COMPTROLLER GENERAL ASSESSMENT OF MEMO-**
7 **RANDA OF UNDERSTANDING AND MEMO-**
8 **RANDA OF AGREEMENT BETWEEN UNDER**
9 **SECRETARY OF HEALTH AND NON-DEPART-**
10 **MENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS ENTITIES RE-**
11 **LATING TO SUICIDE PREVENTION AND MEN-**
12 **TAL HEALTH SERVICES.**

13 *(a) ASSESSMENT.—Not later than 270 days after the*
14 *date of the enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General*
15 *of the United States shall conduct an assessment of the effec-*
16 *tiveness of all memoranda of understanding and memo-*
17 *randa of agreement entered into by the Under Secretary*
18 *of Veterans Affairs for Health and a non-Department of*
19 *Veterans Affairs entity relating to—*

20 *(1) suicide prevention activities and outreach;*
21 *and*

22 *(2) the provision or coordination of mental*
23 *health services during the five-year period preceding*
24 *the date of the enactment of this Act.*

1 **(b) CONTENTS OF ASSESSMENT.**—*The assessment re-*
2 *quired by subsection (a) shall include an assessment of—*

3 (1) *the size of the catchment area of each such*
4 *entity;*

5 (2) *the staffing structures of such entities;*

6 (3) *any accreditation or licensure any such enti-*
7 *ty has obtained in relation to the services the entity*
8 *provides;*

9 (4) *any variances in the subpopulations of vet-*
10 *erans served by such entities;*

11 (5) *any limitations any such entity may face in*
12 *carrying out its obligations under the memorandum*
13 *of understanding or memorandum of agreement;*

14 (6) *the extent to which the Under Secretary pro-*
15 *vides oversight and tracks outcomes of such entities;*

16 (7) *any variations in the structure or require-*
17 *ments of the memoranda of understanding and memo-*
18 *randa of agreement;*

19 (8) *a breakdown of the percentage of such entities*
20 *that serve—*

21 (A) *women veterans;*

22 (B) *minority veterans;*

23 (C) *veterans who are over the age of 55;*

24 (D) *veterans between the ages of 18 and 34;*

1 *(E) veterans who reside in United States*
2 *insular areas; and*

3 *(F) veterans' families; and*

4 *(9) any measures taken to ensure the secure ex-*
5 *change of data and information between such entities*
6 *and the Department of Veterans Affairs.*

7 *(c) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—Not later than 270 days*
8 *after the completion of the assessment under subsection (a),*
9 *the Comptroller General shall submit to the Committees on*
10 *Veterans' Affairs of the Senate and House of Representa-*
11 *tives a report on the results of the assessment.*