

Union Calendar No.

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1823

[Report No. 119-]

To direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs and the Comptroller General of the United States to report on certain funding shortfalls in the Department of Veterans Affairs.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 4, 2025

Mr. BERGMAN (for himself and Mr. BOST) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs

MAY --, 2025

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 italic]

[For text of introduced bill, see copy of bill as introduced on March 4, 2025]

A BILL

To direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs and the Comptroller General of the United States to report on certain funding shortfalls in the Department of Veterans Affairs.

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 “VA Budget Shortfall*
5 *Accountability Act”.*

6 **SECTION 2. FUNDING SHORTFALLS IN CERTAIN ADMINIS-**
7 **TRATIONS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF VET-**
8 **ERANS AFFAIRS: REVIEWS; REPORTS.**

9 *(a) FIRST GAO REVIEW.—*

10 *(1) REVIEW REQUIRED.—Not later than 30 days*
11 *after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Comp-*
12 *troller General of the United States shall begin a re-*
13 *view regarding the circumstances surrounding, and*
14 *the causes of—*

15 *(A) the shortfall in the funding of the Vet-*
16 *erans Benefits Administration for fiscal year*
17 *2024; and*

18 *(B) the expected shortfall in the funding of*
19 *the Veterans Health Administration in fiscal*
20 *year 2025.*

21 *(2) ELEMENTS.—The review under this sub-*
22 *section shall include the following elements:*

23 *(A) A comparison of monthly obligations*
24 *and expenditures in relevant accounts against*

1 *the spending plan of the Department of Veterans*
2 *Affairs.*

3 *(B) Any transfers between accounts de-*
4 *scribed in subparagraph (A).*

5 *(C) The reasons for any significant diver-*
6 *sions of obligations or expenditures from such*
7 *spending plan.*

8 *(D) An analysis of the accuracy of any pro-*
9 *jections or estimates relevant to diversions de-*
10 *scribed in subparagraph (C).*

11 *(E) Remedial actions the Secretary of Vet-*
12 *erans Affairs may take—*

13 *(i) to improve the accuracy of sup-*
14 *porting information submitted under sec-*
15 *tion 1105(a) of title 31, United States Code,*
16 *with respect to the Department; and*

17 *(ii) to prevent funding shortfalls for*
18 *the Department.*

19 *(3) REPORT.—Not later than 30 days after com-*
20 *pleting such review, the Comptroller General shall*
21 *submit to the Secretary of Veterans Affairs a written*
22 *report containing the results and findings of such re-*
23 *view.*

24 *(b) SUBSEQUENT GAO REVIEWS.—In each of the five*
25 *calendar years following the date of the enactment of this*

1 *Act, the Comptroller General shall conduct a review includ-*
2 *ing the elements described in subsection (a)(2), and submit*
3 *a report described in subsection (a)(3), regarding the fund-*
4 *ing of the Department of Veterans Affairs for the most re-*
5 *cent fiscal year to end before the date of such review.*

6 *(c) REPORTS OF THE SECRETARY OF VETERANS AF-*
7 *FAIRS.—Not later than 30 days after the Secretary of Vet-*
8 *erans Affairs receives a report of the Comptroller General*
9 *under subsection (a) or (b), the Secretary shall submit such*
10 *report to—*

11 *(1) the Committees on Veterans' Affairs of the*
12 *House of Representatives and the Senate; and*

13 *(2) the Committees on Appropriations of the*
14 *House of Representatives and the Senate.*