

**AMENDMENT TO THE AMENDMENT IN THE NA-
TURE OF A SUBSTITUTE TO THE COMMITTEE
PRINT
OFFERED BY MR. BOST OF ILLINOIS**

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

1 **SEC. ____.** **IMPROVEMENTS REGARDING PROVISION OF**
2 **COVID-19 VACCINES BY SECRETARY OF VET-**
3 **ERANS AFFAIRS.**

4 (a) **PROVISION OF COVID-19 VACCINES.**—During
5 the period beginning on the date of the enactment of this
6 Act and ending on the date on which the public health
7 emergency declared under section 319 of the Public
8 Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 247d) with respect to
9 COVID-19 terminates, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs
10 may furnish a COVID-19 vaccine, as defined in sub-
11 section (b), to—

12 (1) any veteran enrolled in the health care sys-
13 tem of the Department of Veterans Affairs under
14 section 1705 of title 38, United States Code, without
15 regard to the priority group of enrollment of such
16 veteran; and

17 (2) any resident of a State home (as such term
18 is defined in section 101 of title 38, United States

1 Code) at which the acceptance rate of COVID–19
2 vaccines among individuals employed in the State
3 home is less than 85 percent, without regard to
4 whether such resident is a veteran eligible to receive
5 care at the State home.

6 (b) COVID–19 VACCINE DEFINED.—In this section,
7 the term “COVID–19 vaccine” means any vaccine for the
8 coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID–19) that is available to
9 the general public, was authorized or approved by the
10 Commissioner of Food and Drugs, and for which such
11 Commissioner granted an emergency use authorization
12 under section 564 of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cos-
13 metic Act (21 U.S.C. 360bbb–3), or any subsequent boost-
14 er shot for COVID–19, but does not include other medical
15 care or health services, such as medical care or health
16 services necessary after an adverse health reaction to such
17 vaccine or booster shot.

18 **SEC. ____ . FUNDING FOR THE PROVISION OF COVID–19 VAC-**
19 **CINES TO VETERANS IN CERTAIN GEO-**
20 **GRAPHIC AREAS.**

21 Of the amounts made available by this title for fiscal
22 year 2021, \$500,000,000 shall be made available to the
23 Secretary of Veterans Affairs to furnish COVID–19 vac-
24 cines to veterans in highly rural areas (as such term is

1 defined in section 1703 of title 38, United States Code),
2 tribal lands, and territories of the United States.

3 **SEC. ____ . COMMUNICATIONS AND OUTREACH CAMPAIGN**
4 **REGARDING COVID-19 VACCINES.**

5 Of the amounts made available by this title for fiscal
6 year 2021, \$1,000,000 shall be made available to the Sec-
7 retary of Veterans Affairs to carry out a communications
8 and outreach campaign to encourage veterans and employ-
9 ees of the Department of Veterans Affairs to receive
10 COVID-19 vaccines. In carrying out such campaign, the
11 Secretary shall ensure outreach extends to individuals in
12 areas with populations that have a high proportion of mi-
13 nority group representation, areas with populations that
14 have a high proportion of individuals who have limited ac-
15 cess to health care, tribal lands, and territories of the
16 United States.

17 **SEC. ____ . REPORT ON DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AF-**
18 **FAIRS COVID-19 VACCINE EFFORTS.**

19 Not later than December 31, 2021, the Comptroller
20 General of the United States shall submit to the Commit-
21 tees on Veterans' Affairs of the House of Representatives
22 and the Senate a report on the efforts to furnish COVID-
23 19 vaccines undertaken by the Department of Veterans

- 1 Affairs. This section shall be carried out using amounts
- 2 made available by this title for fiscal year 2021.

