

**AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE  
TO H.R. 5916  
OFFERED BY MR. TAKANO OF CALIFORNIA**

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

**1 SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “Wounded Warrior Ac-  
3 cess Act”.

**4 SEC. 2. ELECTRONIC REQUEST OF CERTAIN RECORDS  
5 MAINTAINED BY THE SECRETARY OF VET-  
6 ERANS AFFAIRS.**

7 (a) ELECTRONIC RECORD REQUESTS.—Section 5702  
8 of title 38, United States Code, is amended—

9 (1) by redesignating subsection (b) as sub-  
10 section (c); and

11 (2) by inserting after subsection (a) the fol-  
12 lowing:

13 “(b)(1) The Secretary shall establish and maintain  
14 a secure website or online tool for a claimant or a duly  
15 recognized agent or representative of that claimant to sub-  
16 mit an electronic request for such records.

1           “(2) The Secretary, upon receipt of a valid request  
2 made through the website or online tool established under  
3 paragraph (1), shall provide to the requestor—

4           “(A) not later than 10 days after receipt, con-  
5 firmation of such receipt; and

6           “(B) not later than 120 days after receipt, such  
7 records requested in the form selected by the re-  
8 questor.”.

9           (b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—Section 5702(a)  
10 of title 38, United States Code, is amended—

11           (1) in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by  
12 striking “in writing” and inserting “in writing, in-  
13 cluding an electronic request submitted through the  
14 website or online tool established under subsection  
15 (b),”;

16           (2) in paragraph (1), by striking “and” at the  
17 end;

18           (3) in paragraph (2), by striking the period at  
19 the end and inserting “; and”; and

20           (4) by adding at the end the following:

21           “(3) the format in which such copy is desired,  
22 including whether in printed form or by  
23 downloadable file.”.

24           (c) DEADLINE; ESTABLISHMENT OF WEBSITE OR  
25 ONLINE TOOL.—Not later than 180 days after the date

1 of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Veterans  
2 Affairs shall establish the website or online tool required  
3 under section 5702(b)(1) of title 38, United States Code,  
4 as added by this Act, and, to the extent practicable, the  
5 Secretary shall utilize existing online resources of the De-  
6 partment of Veterans Affairs for the purposes of such es-  
7 tablishment.

8 **SEC. 3. WARNINGS TO CLAIMANTS UNDER LAWS ADMINIS-**  
9 **TERED BY THE SECRETARY OF VETERANS AF-**  
10 **FAIRS REGARDING UNRECOGNIZED REP-**  
11 **RESENTATIVES.**

12 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 5901 of title 38, United  
13 States Code, is amended—

14 (1) by inserting “(a) IN GENERAL.—” before  
15 “Except”;

16 (2) by adding at the end the following new sub-  
17 section:

18 “(b) WARNINGS ABOUT POTENTIAL PREDATORY  
19 PRACTICES.—(1) The Secretary shall ensure that, each  
20 time a claimant under a law administered by the Secretary  
21 logs in to a website or online tool of the Department, such  
22 website or online tool issues to the claimant, in plain lan-  
23 guage—

24 “(A) a warning about individuals who seek to  
25 act in violation of this chapter;

1           “(B) a link to an online tool of the Department  
2 through which the claimant may report such an indi-  
3 vidual;

4           “(C) a link to an online tool of the Department  
5 through which the claimant may search for a recog-  
6 nized agent, attorney, or other entity recognized by  
7 the Secretary for the preparation, presentation, or  
8 prosecution of any claim under laws administered by  
9 the Secretary; and

10           “(D) a link to a website or an online tool of the  
11 Department providing final decisions on discipline of  
12 agents, attorneys, and entities, described in subpara-  
13 graph (C), by the Secretary for violations of this  
14 chapter.

15           “(2) The Secretary shall provide all information  
16 under paragraph (1) in the following languages:

17           “(A) English.

18           “(B) Spanish.

19           “(C) Tagalog.

20           “(D) The seven other languages most com-  
21 monly spoken in the United States.”.

22           (b) IMPLEMENTATION.—The Secretary of Veterans  
23 Affairs shall carry out subsection (b) of such section, as  
24 added by subsection (a) of this section—

- 1           (1) after consulting with stakeholders (including  
2 veterans service organizations recognized under sec-  
3 tion 5902 of such title) regarding the wording of the  
4 warning under such subsection; and  
5           (2) not later than one year after the date of the  
6 enactment of this Act.

