

**AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE**  
**TO H.R. 3579**  
**OFFERED BY MR. BOST OF ILLINOIS**

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

**1 SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2       This Act may be cited as the “Veterans Readiness  
3 and Employment Program Integrity Act”.

**4 SEC. 2. APPLICATION REQUIREMENT UNDER VETERANS**  
**5 READINESS AND EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM OF**  
**6 DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS.**

7       Section 3106(a) of title 38, United States Code, is  
8 amended—

9           (1) by striking “necessary (1) to determine”  
10       and inserting “necessary to determine”;

11           (2) by striking “and (2) in the case” and in-  
12       serting “and, in the case”;

13           (3) by inserting “(1)” before “The Secretary”;  
14       and

15           (4) by adding at the end the following new  
16       paragraph:

17       “(2) The Secretary may not provide an initial evalua-  
18       tion of a veteran under paragraph (1) before the veteran

1 submits to the Secretary an application containing the  
2 substantive work record and educational transcripts of the  
3 veteran that the Secretary determines appropriate.”.

4 **SEC. 3. MAXIMUM DURATION OF EMPLOYMENT ASSIST-**  
5 **ANCE UNDER VETERANS READINESS AND EM-**  
6 **PLOYMENT PROGRAM OF DEPARTMENT OF**  
7 **VETERANS AFFAIRS.**

8 Section 3117(a) of title 38, United States Code, is  
9 amended by adding at the end the following new para-  
10 graph:

11 “(3)(A) Subject to subparagraph (B), a veteran may  
12 not receive assistance under this subsection for more than  
13 365 days.

14 “(B) A veteran may receive an additional 180 days  
15 of such assistance if an individual who provides counseling  
16 under this chapter to such veteran certifies that the vet-  
17 eran is actively seeking employment.”.

18 **SEC. 4. REPORTING AND DATA COLLECTION REQUIRE-**  
19 **MENTS UNDER VETERANS READINESS AND**  
20 **EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM OF DEPARTMENT**  
21 **OF VETERANS AFFAIRS.**

22 (a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 31 of title 38, United  
23 States Code, is amended by adding at the end the fol-  
24 lowing new section:

1 **“§ 3123. Requirements for data collection and report-**  
2 **ing**

3 “(a) DATA COLLECTION.—The Secretary shall sub-  
4 mit to the Committees on Veterans’ Affairs of the Senate  
5 and House of Representatives a report regarding the em-  
6 ployment of veterans who participate in a vocational reha-  
7 bilitation program under this chapter. Such information  
8 shall include, for each such veteran—

9 “(1) the regional office responsible for the pro-  
10 vision of the program; and

11 “(2) the annual wages of the veteran before and  
12 after the completion of the program.

13 “(b) PUBLICATION OF WAIT TIMES.—On an annual  
14 basis, the Secretary shall make publicly available, on an  
15 appropriate website of the Department, the average time  
16 between the date on which a veteran requests a vocational  
17 rehabilitation program under this chapter and the date on  
18 which the veteran first meets with a counselor as part of  
19 the veteran’s program.”.

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

“3123. Requirements for data collection and reporting.”.

23 (c) INDEPENDENT REVIEW OF PROGRAM.—

24 (1) REVIEW REQUIRED.—Not later than one  
25 year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the

1 Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall seek to enter into  
2 a contract, with a non-Department entity that has  
3 expertise in vocational rehabilitation, pursuant to  
4 which the entity shall conduct a review of rehabilita-  
5 tion programs (as such term is defined in section  
6 3101 of such title) under such chapter.

7 (2) REPORT.—Not later than one year after the  
8 date of such a contract, the entity shall submit to  
9 the Secretary a report containing recommendations  
10 regarding how to improve and modernize such reha-  
11 bilitation programs.

