

**AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE  
TO H.R. 8052  
OFFERED BY MRS. KIGGANS OF VIRGINIA**

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

**1 SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2       This Act may be cited as the “Veteran Infection Pre-  
3 vention Act”.

**4 SEC. 2. TEMPORARY PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATION RE-  
5                    QUIREMENT FOR STERILE PROCESSING  
6                    TECHNICIANS OF THE VETERANS HEALTH  
7                    ADMINISTRATION.**

8       (a) REQUIREMENT.—To be eligible to be appointed  
9 to a sterile processing technician position (except for such  
10 a position that the Secretary of Veterans Affairs deter-  
11 mines is entry level), a person must be certified as a sterile  
12 processing technician by an accredited institution engaged  
13 in providing sterile processing technician training not later  
14 than two years after such an appointment.

15       (b) CURRENT EMPLOYEES.—

16           (1) APPLICABILITY.—Subsection (a) shall apply  
17 to a covered employee on the day that is 18 months  
18 after the date of the enactment of this Act.

1           (2) EMPLOYEE INCENTIVE SCHOLARSHIP PRO-  
2           GRAM.—

3           (A) REQUIREMENT.—The Secretary of  
4           Veterans Affairs shall award to a covered em-  
5           ployee a scholarship under subchapter VI of  
6           chapter 76 of title 38, United States Code, for  
7           certification described in section 7402(b)(14) of  
8           such title, as amended by subsection (a).

9           (B) PERIOD OF OBLIGATED SERVICE.—  
10          Notwithstanding section 7672(e) of such title,  
11          the period of obligated service of a covered em-  
12          ployee awarded a scholarship pursuant to sub-  
13          paragraph (A) shall be a period of one day be-  
14          ginning on the day that the covered employee  
15          receives such certification.

16          (3) COVERED EMPLOYEE DEFINED.—In this  
17          subsection, the term “covered employee” means a  
18          person—

19                 (A) occupying a sterile processing techni-  
20                 cian position in the Veterans Health Adminis-  
21                 tration on the date of the enactment of this  
22                 Act; and

23                 (B) who, on such date, is not certified as  
24                 a sterile processing technician by an accredited

1 institution engaged in providing sterile proc-  
2 essing technician training.

3 (c) TERMINATION.—This section shall have no effect  
4 after September 30, 2028.

5 **SEC. 3. EXTENSION OF CERTAIN LIMITS ON PAYMENTS OF**  
6 **PENSION.**

7 Section 5503(d)(7) of title 38, United States Code,  
8 is amended by striking “January 31, 2033” and inserting  
9 “September 30, 2034”.

