

118TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 6452

To amend title 38, United States Code, to establish in the Department of Veterans Affairs a Veterans Scam and Fraud Evasion Officer, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NOVEMBER 17, 2023

Ms. STEFANIK (for herself, Mr. BOST, Mr. COLE, and Mr. WITTMAN) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs

A BILL

To amend title 38, United States Code, to establish in the Department of Veterans Affairs a Veterans Scam and Fraud Evasion Officer, and for other purposes.

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 “Veterans Scam and
5 Fraud Evasion Act of 2023” or the “VSAFE Act of
6 2023”.

1 **SEC. 2. VETERANS SCAM AND FRAUD EVASION OFFICER.**

2 (a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 3 of title 38, United
3 States Code, is amended by adding at the end the fol-
4 lowing new section:

5 **“§ 325. Veterans Scam and Fraud Evasion Officer**

6 “(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is in the Department
7 a Veterans Scam and Fraud Evasion Officer, who shall
8 be responsible for fraud and scam prevention, reporting,
9 and incident response plans at the Department.

10 “(b) RESPONSIBILITIES.—The Veterans Scam and
11 Fraud Evasion Officer shall carry out the following re-
12 sponsibilities:

13 “(1) Providing comprehensive communication
14 from the Department to Department employees and
15 veterans, their families, caregivers, and survivors
16 during strategic and time-sensitive fraud and scam
17 incidents.

18 “(2) Establishing consistent guidance across
19 the enterprise for employees as well as veterans,
20 their families, caregivers, and survivors on how to
21 identify, report, and avoid fraud and scam attempts.

22 “(3) Promoting the Veteran Identity Health
23 Theft Helpline of the Department (and any suc-
24 cessor resource) and identifying other identity theft
25 resources available to veterans, their families, care-
26 givers, and survivors, including with respect to ac-

1 tions made by the Secretary to protect the identities
2 of veterans and their beneficiaries.

3 “(4) Developing methods to monitor fraud and
4 scam metrics within the Department to—

5 “(A) provide internal and external report-
6 ing;

7 “(B) enable advanced data analytics; and

8 “(C) facilitate proactive and robust fraud
9 and scam trend identification.

10 “(5) Developing comprehensive training plans
11 for Department employees fielding fraud and scam
12 inquiries and reports.

13 “(6) Coordinate with other Federal depart-
14 ments and agencies, including the Executive Office
15 of the President, the Office of Management and
16 Budget, the Internal Revenue Service, the Depart-
17 ment of Justice, the Department of State, the Con-
18 sumer Financial Protection Bureau, the Department
19 of Defense, the Department of Education, the Social
20 Security Administration, and other relevant agencies
21 to—

22 “(A) create a whole-of-Government view
23 within the Department with respect to the
24 fraud prevention efforts at other Federal de-
25 partments and agencies;

1 “(B) identify the proper avenues for vet-
2 erans to report fraud attempts and receive as-
3 sistance; and

4 “(C) identify opportunities for coordination
5 with such departments and agencies.

6 “(7) Consulting with veterans service organiza-
7 tions and State and local governments, as necessary,
8 to improve the understanding of fraud and scam
9 risks within the Department.

10 “(c) FULL-TIME EMPLOYEES.—Nothing in this sec-
11 tion authorizes an increase in the number of full-time em-
12 ployees otherwise authorized for the Department.”.

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

“325. Veterans Scam and Fraud Evasion Officer.”.

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