

118TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 5938

To amend the Veterans' Benefits Improvements Act of 1996 and the Johnny Isakson and David P. Roe, M.D. Veterans Health Care and Benefits Improvement Act of 2020 to improve the temporary licensure requirements for contract health care professionals who perform medical disability examinations for the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

OCTOBER 12, 2023

Mr. CISCOMANI (for himself and Mrs. CHERFILUS-McCORMICK) introduced
the following bill

OCTOBER 25, 2023

Referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs

A BILL

To amend the Veterans' Benefits Improvements Act of 1996 and the Johnny Isakson and David P. Roe, M.D. Veterans Health Care and Benefits Improvement Act of 2020 to improve the temporary licensure requirements for contract health care professionals who perform medical disability examinations for the Department of Veterans Affairs, 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,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “Veterans Exam Expan-
3 sion Act of 2023”.

4 **SEC. 2. IMPROVEMENTS TO TEMPORARY LICENSURE RE-**
5 **QUIREMENTS FOR CONTRACT HEALTH CARE**
6 **PROFESSIONALS WHO PERFORM MEDICAL**
7 **DISABILITY EXAMINATIONS FOR THE DE-**
8 **PARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS.**

9 (a) EXPANSION.—

10 (1) IN GENERAL.—Section 504(c)(2) of the
11 Veterans’ Benefits Improvements Act of 1996 (Pub-
12 lic Law 104–275; 38 U.S.C. 5101 note), as amended
13 by paragraph (1) of subsection (a) of section 2002
14 of the Johnny Isakson and David P. Roe, M.D. Vet-
15 erans Health Care and Benefits Improvement Act of
16 2020 (Public Law 116–315; 38 U.S.C. 5101 note),
17 is further amended, subject to the sunset in para-
18 graph (4) of such subsection, by striking “or psy-
19 chologist” both places it appears and inserting “psy-
20 chologist, podiatrist, dentist, or optometrist”.

21 (2) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Paragraph (2)
22 of such subsection is amended by striking “and psy-
23 chologists” and inserting “psychologists, podiatrists,
24 dentists, and optometrists”.

25 (b) EXTENSION.—Section 2002(a)(4) of the Johnny
26 Isakson and David P. Roe, M.D. Veterans Health Care

1 and Benefits Improvement Act of 2020 (Public Law 116–
2 315; 38 U.S.C. 5101 note) is amended by striking “three
3 years” and inserting “five years”.

4 (c) REPORT.—Not later than 15 months after the
5 date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Vet-
6 erans Affairs shall submit to the Committees on Veterans’
7 Affairs of the Senate and House of Representatives a re-
8 port regarding the use of the authority under section 504
9 of the Veterans’ Benefits Improvements Act of 1996 (Pub-
10 lic Law 104–275; 38 U.S.C. 5101 note), as temporarily
11 amended by section 2002(a)(1) of the Johnny Isakson and
12 David P. Roe, M.D. Veterans Health Care and Benefits
13 Improvement Act of 2020 (Public Law 116–315; 38
14 U.S.C. 5101 note) and by subsection (a). Such report shall
15 include, with respect to the one-year period after the date
16 of the enactment of this Act, the following elements:

17 (1) The number of examinations conducted pur-
18 suant to a contract under such authority.

19 (2) The number of such examinations con-
20 ducted in each State, the District of Columbia, or a
21 Commonwealth, territory, or possession of the
22 United States.

23 (3) The numbers of each kind of health care
24 professionals who conducted such examinations.

1 (4) The number of examinations that were erro-
2 neously conducted by a health care professional—

3 (A) without such a contract; or

4 (B) unauthorized to enter into such a con-
5 tract.

6 (5) The plan of the Secretary to correct errors
7 in the use of such authority.

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