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(Original Signature of Member)

119TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 2201

To amend title 38, United States Code, to improve claims, made under laws administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, regarding military sexual trauma, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mrs. KIM introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee  
on \_\_\_\_\_

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# A BILL

To amend title 38, United States Code, to improve claims, made under laws administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, regarding military sexual trauma, 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 “Improving VA Train-  
5 ing for Military Sexual Trauma Claims Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. IMPROVEMENT OF CLAIMS BASED ON MILITARY**  
2 **SEXUAL TRAUMA UNDER LAWS ADMINIS-**  
3 **TERED BY THE SECRETARY OF VETERANS AF-**  
4 **FAIRS.**

5 (a) TRAINING FOR EMPLOYEES WHO PROCESS SUCH  
6 CLAIMS.—

7 (1) IN GENERAL.—Subsection (c) of section  
8 1166 of title 38, United States Code, is amended—

9 (A) in paragraph (1), by striking “mem-  
10 bers of teams established under subsection (a)  
11 are trained” and inserting “each employee of  
12 the Department who processes such a claim,  
13 communicates with a claimant regarding evi-  
14 dence supporting such a claim, or decides such  
15 a claim, receives annual sensitivity training and  
16 training”; and

17 (B) by adding at the end the following new  
18 paragraphs:

19 “(4) The Secretary shall ensure that training received  
20 by an employee under this subsection is appropriate for  
21 how much experience the employee has with such claims.

22 “(5) The Secretary shall update training under this  
23 subsection not less than once annually.”.

24 (2) REPORT.—Not later than 90 days after the  
25 date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of  
26 Veterans Affairs shall submit to the Committees on

1 Veterans' Affairs of the Senate and House of Rep-  
2 resentatives a report regarding—

3 (A) training provided under such sub-  
4 section before such date; and

5 (B) plans of the Secretary to carry out the  
6 amendments made by paragraph (1).

7 (b) EXPANSION OF DUTY TO ASSIST IN OBTAINING  
8 RECORDS FOR A COMPENSATION CLAIM.—Section  
9 5103A(c) of title 38, United States Code, is amended—

10 (1) by redesignating paragraph (2) as para-  
11 graph (3); and

12 (2) by inserting, after paragraph (1), the fol-  
13 lowing new paragraph (2):

14 “(2) In the case of a claim under section 1166 of  
15 this title, the assistance provided by the Secretary under  
16 this section shall include—

17 “(A) if there is no credible supporting evidence  
18 of a military sexual trauma in the evidence of  
19 record, obtaining the service personnel record of the  
20 claimant; and

21 “(B) obtaining the service medical record of the  
22 claimant.”.

23 (c) SENSITIVITY TRAINING FOR CERTAIN CON-  
24 TRACTED HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONALS: REPORT; IM-  
25 PROVEMENTS.—Not later than 90 days after the date of

1 the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Veterans Af-  
2 fairs shall submit to the Committees on Veterans' Affairs  
3 of the Senate and House of Representatives a report on—

4           (1) sensitivity training required for health care  
5 professionals (including individuals who commu-  
6 nicate with veterans to schedule examinations), con-  
7 tracted under section 504 of the Veterans' Benefits  
8 Improvements Act of 1996 (Public Law 104–275;  
9 38 U.S.C. 5101 note), to perform examinations of  
10 veterans who make claims under section 1166 of  
11 title 38, United States Code; and

12           (2) the plan of the Secretary to—

13                   (A) improve such sensitivity training; and

14                   (B) ensure that a veteran who makes such  
15 a claim is not retraumatized during such an ex-  
16 amination by such a contracted health care pro-  
17 fessional.