

**AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE**  
**TO H.R. 226**  
**OFFERED BY Mr. Van Orden**

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

**1 SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “Veterans Collaboration  
3 Act”.

**4 SEC. 2. DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS PILOT PRO-**  
**5 GRAM ON ENCOURAGEMENT OF PARTNER-**  
**6 SHIPS BETWEEN VETERANS SERVICE ORGA-**  
**7 NIZATIONS AND LAW SCHOOLS PROVIDING**  
**8 PRO BONO SERVICES TO VETERANS.**

9 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Veterans Affairs  
10 shall carry out a two-year pilot program to promote and  
11 encourage partnerships between the Department of Vet-  
12 erans Affairs and nonprofit organizations and institutions  
13 of higher learning. In carrying out the pilot program, the  
14 Secretary shall encourage partnerships between—

15 (1) veterans service organizations that provide  
16 personnel with appropriate credentials to assist vet-  
17 erans in filing claims and appeals with the Depart-

1       ment for disability compensation and address other  
2       legal needs of veterans; and

3               (2) law schools that provide pro bono legal as-  
4       sistance and legal services to veterans.

5       (b) METRICS.—The Secretary shall establish guide-  
6       lines to determine which organizations and institutions are  
7       best positioned to serve veterans and seek to encourage  
8       such organizations and institutions to participate in the  
9       pilot program.

10       (c) LOCATION.—The Secretary shall carry out the  
11       pilot program in States with the highest veteran popu-  
12       lations, as determined by the Secretary.

13       (d) USE OF SOCIAL MEDIA.—In carrying out the  
14       pilot program, the Secretary shall use social media to pro-  
15       mote the partnerships carried out under the pilot program  
16       and to notify veterans of such partnerships.

17       (e) REPORTS.—Not later than 30 days after the last  
18       day of each fiscal quarter until the termination of the pilot  
19       program, the Secretary shall submit to the Committees on  
20       Veterans' Affairs of the Senate and the House of Rep-  
21       resentatives a report on the pilot program. Each such re-  
22       port shall include, for the fiscal quarter covered by the  
23       report, a description of the use of social media under sub-

- 1 section (d) and the number of veterans who receive admin-
- 2 istrative assistance from law schools through the program.

