

Union Calendar No.

117TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1510

[Report No. 117-]

To direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to submit to Congress a report on the use of cameras in medical centers of the Department of Veterans Affairs.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 2, 2021

Mr. MCKINLEY (for himself, Mr. TRONE, Mr. MOONEY, Mrs. MILLER of West Virginia, Mr. RESCHENTHALER, and Mr. BOST) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs

MAY 6, 2021

Committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union,
and ordered to be printed

[Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert the part printed in italics]

[For text of introduced bill, see copy of bill as introduced on March 2, 2021]

A BILL

To direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to submit to Congress a report on the use of cameras in medical centers of the Department of Veterans Affairs.

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. REPORT ON USE OF CAMERAS IN MEDICAL FA-**
4 **CILITIES OF THE DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS**
5 **AFFAIRS.**

6 *(a) REPORT REQUIRED.—Not later than one year*
7 *after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary*
8 *of Veterans Affairs, in collaboration with the Office of Oper-*
9 *ations, Security, and Preparedness of the Department of*
10 *Veterans Affairs, the Veterans Health Administration, and*
11 *the Office of Construction and Facilities Management of the*
12 *Department, shall submit to the Committees on Veterans’*
13 *Affairs of the Senate and the House of Representatives a*
14 *report analyzing the policies, use, and maintenance of cam-*
15 *eras deployed by the Department for patient safety and law*
16 *enforcement at medical facilities of the Department.*

17 *(b) ELEMENTS.—The report required by subsection (a)*
18 *shall include the following:*

19 *(1) A comprehensive review of the policies and*
20 *procedures of the Department regarding the use and*
21 *maintenance of cameras with respect to the following:*

22 *(A) Patient safety, including—*

23 *(i) an analysis of how cameras are*
24 *used to monitor staff and patients;*

1 (ii) an analysis of the specific units
2 within medical facilities in which the use of
3 cameras is prioritized to protect patient
4 safety;

5 (iii) an analysis of the procedures re-
6 garding the positioning of cameras;

7 (iv) an analysis of the extent to which
8 cameras monitor locations where drugs are
9 stored to ensure that drugs are accounted
10 for, and an assessment of whether this is a
11 widely used practice; and

12 (v) an analysis of the actions taken to
13 preserve and protect patient privacy.

14 (B) Law enforcement of medical facilities of
15 the Department, including—

16 (i) how exterior cameras are used;

17 (ii) how interior cameras are used;

18 and

19 (iii) an analysis of locations, interior
20 and exterior, in which camera use is
21 prioritized.

22 (2) Recommendations of the Secretary to im-
23 prove patient safety and law enforcement, includ-
24 ing—

1 (A) the placement and maintenance of cam-
2 eras;

3 (B) the storage of data from such cameras;

4 (C) the authority of supervisors at medical
5 facilities of the Department to review recordings
6 from cameras;

7 (D) the number of staff required to monitor
8 live footage from cameras at each medical facil-
9 ity of the Department;

10 (E) the funding necessary to address short-
11 falls with respect to cameras and the specific
12 uses for such funding;

13 (F) any additional actions required to pre-
14 serve and protect patient privacy; and

15 (G) such other matters the Secretary deter-
16 mines appropriate.

17 (c) *CAMERA DEFINED.*—*In this section, the term*
18 *“camera” means any video camera used in a medical facil-*
19 *ity of the Department of Veterans Affairs for purposes of*
20 *patient safety or law enforcement, but does not include cam-*
21 *eras used solely by the Inspector General of the Department*
22 *of Veterans Affairs to assist in criminal investigations con-*
23 *ducted by the Inspector General.*

Amend the title so as to read: “A bill to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to submit to Congress a re-

port on the use of cameras in medical facilities of the Department of Veterans Affairs.”.