

.....  
(Original Signature of Member)

117TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

**H. R.** \_\_\_\_\_

To direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to implement a plan to improve access of the Department of Veterans Affairs to demographic data of veterans, to amend title 44, United States Code, to make the Department a designated statistical agency, and for other purposes.

\_\_\_\_\_  
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
**A BILL**

To direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to implement a plan to improve access of the Department of Veterans Affairs to demographic data of veterans, to amend title 44, United States Code, to make the Department a designated statistical agency, 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 “VA Inclusion, Diver-  
5 sity, Equity, And Access Data Improvement Act” or the  
6 “VA IDEA DATA Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. IMPROVEMENT OF ACCESS TO DEMOGRAPHIC DATA**  
2 **FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AF-**  
3 **FAIRS.**

4 (a) PLAN.—Not later than 180 days after the date  
5 of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Veterans  
6 Affairs shall implement a plan to improve access to cov-  
7 ered data. The plan shall include the following:

8 (1) A list of sources, known to the Secretary,  
9 of covered data.

10 (2) Timetables and methods for obtaining or  
11 accessing covered data, including establishing agree-  
12 ments.

13 (3) A list of impediments (including the need to  
14 execute agreements) to obtaining, accessing, or shar-  
15 ing covered data.

16 (b) DESIGNATION OF DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS  
17 AFFAIRS AS A DESIGNATED STATISTICAL AGENCY.—

18 (1) DESIGNATION.—Section 3576(e) of title 44,  
19 United States Code, is amended by adding at the  
20 end the following new subsection:

21 “(4) The Department of Veterans Affairs.”.

22 (2) CERTIFICATION.—The Secretary of Vet-  
23 erans Affairs shall make the certification required  
24 under section 3506(b)(6) of such title not later than  
25 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act.

1           (c) PROGRESS REPORT.—Not later than 180 days  
2 after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary  
3 shall submit to the Committees on Veterans’ Affairs of  
4 the Senate and House of Representatives a report regard-  
5 ing progress of the Secretary in carrying out subsections  
6 (a) and (b)(2) of this Act. The report shall include legisla-  
7 tive recommendations of the Secretary.

8           (d) COVERED DATA DEFINED.—In this Act, the term  
9 “covered data” means data—

10           (1) regarding the demographics of veterans and  
11 beneficiaries of laws administered by the Secretary  
12 of Veterans Affairs;

13           (2) collected by an entity (including another  
14 Federal entity, a State or local entity, or a non-gov-  
15 ernmental entity) other than the Department of Vet-  
16 erans Affairs; and

17           (3) that the Secretary may use to make the fol-  
18 lowing more inclusive, equitable, and accessible:

19                   (A) The delivery of services and benefits by  
20 the Department.

21                   (B) Employment within the Department.