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(Original Signature of Member)

118TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 8874

To direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to report on expanding the use of certain automation tools in the Department of Veterans Affairs.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. VALADAO introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on _____

A BILL

To direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to report on expanding the use of certain automation tools in 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. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Modernizing All Vet-
5 erans and Survivors Claims Processing Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. PLAN TO EXPAND USE OF AUTOMATION TOOLS TO**
2 **PROCESS CLAIMS UNDER LAWS ADMINIS-**
3 **TERED BY THE SECRETARY OF VETERANS AF-**
4 **FAIRS.**

5 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the
6 date of the enactment of this Act, and twice annually
7 thereafter, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall submit
8 to the Committees on Veterans' Affairs of the Senate and
9 House of Representatives the plan of the Secretary to
10 make available, to the maximum extent practicable, auto-
11 mation tools described in subsection (b) to other subdivi-
12 sions of the Department of Veterans Affairs, for the pur-
13 pose of processing claims under laws administered by the
14 Secretary.

15 (b) AUTOMATION TOOLS DESCRIBED.—An automa-
16 tion tool described in this subsection is a technology devel-
17 oped for the Compensation Service of the Veterans Bene-
18 fits Administration that—

19 (1) automates the retrieval of the service record
20 or health records of a veteran;

21 (2) compiles evidence relevant to the determina-
22 tion of a claim for benefits under laws administered
23 by the Secretary;

24 (3) provides automated decision support rel-
25 evant to such a determination;

1 (4) automates information sharing between
2 Federal agencies; or

3 (5) assists in generating correspondence regard-
4 ing such a claim.

5 (c) ELEMENTS.—The plan under subsection (a) shall
6 include analyses of the following:

7 (1) The feasibility and benefits of the use of
8 such automation technologies by such subdivisions
9 for such purpose.

10 (2) Any modification to an automation tool that
11 may be necessary to make it usable by such a sub-
12 division.

13 (3) Any requirement of such a subdivision per-
14 taining to such purpose that cannot be addressed by
15 using such an automation tool.

16 (4) The extent to which the technology offices
17 of such subdivisions may need to collaborate with
18 the technology office responsible for developing such
19 an automation tool.

20 (5) A timeline for modifying and implementing
21 the use of such automation tools for such purpose.

22 (d) PRIORITY.—In carrying out subsection (a), the
23 Secretary shall give priority to the following subdivisions
24 of the Department:

1 (1) The Pension and Fiduciary Service of the
2 Veterans Benefits Administration.

3 (2) The Education Service of the Veterans Ben-
4 efits Administration.

5 (3) Program offices of the Veterans Benefits
6 Administration, as determined by the Secretary.

7 (4) The Debt Management Center.

8 (5) The Board of Veterans' Appeals.