

115TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 1994

To direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to make improvements to the information technology system of the Veterans Benefits Administration of the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 6, 2017

Mr. BILIRAKIS introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs

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## A BILL

To direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to make improvements to the information technology system of the Veterans Benefits Administration of the Department of Veterans Affairs, 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 “Vocational Education  
5       and Training Enhancements for Reintegration Assistance  
6       Now Act” or the “VETERAN Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. IMPROVEMENT OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY OF**  
2 **THE VETERANS BENEFITS ADMINISTRATION**  
3 **OF THE DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AF-**  
4 **FAIRS.**

5 (a) **PROCESSING OF CERTAIN EDUCATIONAL ASSIST-**  
6 **ANCE CLAIMS.**—The Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall,  
7 to the maximum extent possible, make such changes and  
8 improvements to the information technology system of the  
9 Veterans Benefits Administration of the Department of  
10 Veterans Affairs to ensure that—

11 (1) to the maximum extent possible, all original  
12 and supplemental claims for educational assistance  
13 under chapter 33 of title 38, United States Code,  
14 are adjudicated electronically; and

15 (2) rules-based processing is used to make deci-  
16 sions with respect to such claims with little human  
17 intervention.

18 (b) **IMPLEMENTATION PLAN.**—Not later than 180  
19 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Sec-  
20 retary of Veterans Affairs shall submit to Congress a plan  
21 to implement the changes and improvements described in  
22 subsection (a).

23 (c) **REPORT.**—Not later than one year after the date  
24 of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Veterans  
25 Affairs shall submit to Congress a report on the implemen-

1 tation of the changes and improvements described in sub-  
2 section (a).

3 (d) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is  
4 authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary of Veterans  
5 Affairs \$30,000,000 to carry out this section during fiscal  
6 years 2017 and 2018.

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