

Union Calendar No. 729

119TH CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

H. R. 7083

[Report No. 119–832]

To amend title 38, United States Code, to make certain improvements in the process of the Department of Veterans Affairs for making payments to automobile sellers for automobiles purchased for certain disabled veterans, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 15, 2026

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

SEPTEMBER 15, 2026

Additional sponsors: Mr. CISCOMANI and Ms. SCHOLTEN

SEPTEMBER 15, 2026

Reported with an amendment, 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 italic]

[For text of introduced bill, see copy of bill as introduced on January 15, 2026]

A BILL

To amend title 38, United States Code, to make certain improvements in the process of the Department of Veterans Affairs for making payments to automobile sellers for automobiles purchased for certain disabled veterans, 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 “Centralized Reimburse-*
 5 *ment for Upgraded Innovative Service Equipment Act” or*
 6 *the “CRUISE Act”.*

7 **SEC. 2. IMPROVEMENTS TO PROCESS FOR MAKING PAY-**
 8 **MENTS TO AUTOMOBILE SELLERS FOR AUTO-**
 9 **MOBILES PURCHASED FOR CERTAIN DIS-**
 10 **ABLED VETERANS.**

11 *(a) TIMELINESS OF PAYMENTS.—Section 3902 of title*
 12 *38, United States Code, is amended, in subsection (a)—*

13 *(1) by inserting “(1)” before “The Secretary”;*
 14 *and*

15 *(2) by adding at the end the following new para-*
 16 *graph:*

17 *“(2) The Secretary shall—*

18 *“(A) make payments under this section in com-*
 19 *pliance with regulations prescribed under section*
 20 *3903(a) of title 31; and*

21 *“(B) in the case of any payment under this sec-*
 22 *tion that is not processed during the period of 30*
 23 *days following receipt by the Secretary of the final in-*
 24 *voice for such payment, the Secretary shall publish in*

1 *the Federal Register the number of days required to*
2 *process the payment.”.*

3 **(b) CENTRALIZATION OF PROCESS FOR MAKING PAY-**
4 **MENTS.—***Such section is amended by adding at the end the*
5 *following new subsection:*

6 *“(f)(1) The Secretary shall process payments under*
7 *this section through one office of the Department that the*
8 *Secretary determines has the capacity and expertise to*
9 *make such payments in compliance with regulations de-*
10 *scribed in subsection (a)(2).*

11 *“(2) The Secretary shall accurately track and resolve*
12 *payments due to sellers under this section that are more*
13 *than 90 days overdue.”.*

14 **(c) REPORTING.—***The Secretary of Veterans Affairs*
15 *shall submit to the Committees on Veterans’ Affairs of the*
16 *Senate and House of Representatives, and publish on a pub-*
17 *licly accessible website of the Department of Veterans Af-*
18 *fairs, four semiannual reports after the date of the enact-*
19 *ment of this Act, regarding the administration of section*
20 *3902 of title 38, United States Code, as amended by this*
21 *section. Each such report shall include, with respect to the*
22 *period of six months preceding the date of the report, the*
23 *following elements:*

24 *(1) The average and median number of days be-*
25 *tween receipt of a invoice for payment under such sec-*

tion by the Claims Intake Center of the Department
and the day when the Secretary makes such payment,
disaggregated by whether the claim was under review
or being processed by—

(A) the Veterans Health Administration;

(B) the Veterans Benefits Administration;

or

(C) the seller.

(2) Improvements to information technology of
the Department that the Secretary determines would
reduce the time required for such review or proc-
essing.

(d) GAO REPORT; BRIEFING.—

(1) REPORT.—Not later than 180 days after the
day the Secretary completes centralization under sub-
section (f) of section 3902 of title 38, United States
Code, as added by this section, the Comptroller Gen-
eral of the United States shall review such centraliza-
tion and publish a report containing the results of
such review. Such report shall include the determina-
tions of the Comptroller General regarding the fol-
lowing:

(A) The capacity of the office determined by
the Secretary under such subsection, to carry out

processing described in such subsection, including—

(i) a comprehensive assessment of employees of the Department who carry out chapter 39 of such title;

(ii) a comprehensive skills assessment indicating what resources the Secretary requires to otherwise improve such centralization, including additional funds, employees, or contractors; and

(iii) a review of systems of information technology, including systems in use or to be acquired, to carry out such centralization.

(B) Recommendations to improve such processing.

(C) Estimated costs to the United States to implement such recommendations.

(2) BRIEFING.—Not later than 30 days after publishing the report under paragraph (1), the Comptroller General shall provide to the Committees on Veterans' Affairs of the House of Representatives and Senate a briefing on such report. Such briefing shall include any response from the Secretary to the Comp-

1 *troller General regarding the recommendations in the*
2 *report.*

3 ***SEC. 3. EXTENSION OF CERTAIN LIMITS ON PAYMENTS OF***
4 ***PENSION.***

5 *Section 5503(d)(7) of title 38, United States Code, is*
6 *amended by striking “January 31, 2033” and inserting*
7 *“October 31, 2033”.*

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