

119TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# H. R. 8052

To amend title 38, United States Code, to require that a sterile processing technician of the Veterans Health Administration holds an appropriate professional certification, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 24, 2026

Mrs. KIGGANS of Virginia introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs

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## A BILL

To amend title 38, United States Code, to require that a sterile processing technician of the Veterans Health Administration holds an appropriate professional certification, 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 “Veteran Infection Pre-  
5       vention Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENT**  
2 **FOR STERILE PROCESSING TECHNICIANS OF**  
3 **THE VETERANS HEALTH ADMINISTRATION.**

4 (a) REQUIREMENT.—Section 7402(b) of title 38,  
5 United States Code, is amended—

6 (1) by redesignating paragraph (14) as (15);

7 and

8 (2) by inserting after paragraph (13) the fol-  
9 lowing new paragraph:

10 “(14) STERILE PROCESSING TECHNICIAN.—To be el-  
11 igible to be appointed to a sterile processing technician  
12 position (except for such a position that the Secretary de-  
13 termines is entry level), a person must be certified as a  
14 sterile processing technician by an accredited institution  
15 engaged in providing sterile processing technician training  
16 not later than two years after such an appointment.”.

17 (b) CURRENT EMPLOYEES.—

18 (1) APPLICABILITY.—The amendment made by  
19 subsection (a) shall apply to a covered employee two  
20 years after the date of the enactment of this Act.

21 (2) EMPLOYEE INCENTIVE SCHOLARSHIP PRO-  
22 GRAM.—

23 (A) REQUIREMENT.—The Secretary of  
24 Veterans Affairs shall award to a covered em-  
25 ployee a scholarship under subchapter VI of  
26 chapter 76 of title 38, United States Code, for

1 certification described in of section 7402(b)(14)  
2 of such title, as amended by subsection (a).

3 (B) PERIOD OF OBLIGATED SERVICE.—

4 Notwithstanding section 7672(e) of such title,  
5 the period of obligated service of a covered em-  
6 ployee awarded a scholarship pursuant to sub-  
7 paragraph (A) shall be a period of two years be-  
8 ginning on the day that the covered employee  
9 receives such certification.

10 (3) COVERED EMPLOYEE DEFINED.—In this  
11 subsection, the term “covered employee” means a  
12 person—

13 (A) occupying a sterile processing techni-  
14 cian position in the Veterans Health Adminis-  
15 tration on the date of the enactment of this  
16 Act; and

17 (B) who, on such date, is not certified as  
18 a sterile processing technician by an accredited  
19 institution engaged in providing sterile proc-  
20 essing technician training.

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