

119TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 8841

To amend title 38, United States Code, to establish the Veteran Scam Victims Foundation, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 14, 2026

Mr. WHITESIDES (for himself, Mr. SHREVE, and Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs

A BILL

To amend title 38, United States Code, to establish the Veteran Scam Victims Foundation, 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 Scam Victims
5 Foundation Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. VETERAN SCAM VICTIMS FOUNDATION.**

7 (a) IN GENERAL.—Title 38, United States Code, is
8 amended by inserting after chapter 83 the following new
9 chapter:

1 **“CHAPTER 84—VETERAN SCAM VICTIMS**

2 **FOUNDATION**

“CHAPTER 84—VETERAN SCAM VICTIMS FOUNDATION

“8401. Establishment and purposes of Foundation.

“8402. Board.

“8403. Gifts, devises, or bequests.

“8404. Disposition of property or income.

“8405. Corporate succession and powers and duties acting as trustee; personal liability for malfeasance.

“8406. Corporate powers.

“8407. Authority of Board.

“8408. Tax exemptions; contributions toward costs of local government; contributions, gifts, or transfers to or for use of the United States.

“8409. Liability of the United States.

“8410. Annual report.

3 **“§ 8401. Establishment and purposes of Foundation**

4 “(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established the Vet-
5 eran Scam Victims Foundation (in this chapter referred
6 to as the ‘Foundation’). The Foundation is a charitable
7 and nonprofit corporation and is not an agency or estab-
8 lishment of the United States.

9 “(b) STATUS.—Except as otherwise provided in this
10 chapter, the Foundation shall be subject to, and have all
11 the powers conferred upon a nonprofit corporation by, the
12 District of Columbia Nonprofit Corporation Act.

13 “(c) PURPOSES.—

14 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraph (2),
15 the purposes of the Foundation are—

16 “(A) to encourage, accept, and administer
17 private gifts of property for the benefit of, or in
18 connection with, the activities of the Depart-
19 ment, to prevent veterans and their bene-

1 ficiaries from becoming the victims of scams;
2 and

3 “(B) to undertake and conduct such other
4 activities as will protect veterans and their
5 beneficiaries from scams, such as to educate
6 veterans and their beneficiaries about scams
7 and support them when they have become vic-
8 tims of scams.

9 “(2) COMPENSATION NOT INCLUDED.—The
10 purposes of the Foundation do not include providing
11 compensation to veterans or their beneficiaries for
12 monetary losses in connection with scams.

13 **“§ 8402. Board**

14 “(a) MEMBERSHIP.—The Foundation shall consist of
15 a Board having as members the following:

16 “(1) The Secretary of Veterans Affairs (or the
17 Secretary’s designee).

18 “(2) Six private citizens of the United States,
19 of which—

20 “(A) one shall be appointed by the Sec-
21 retary of Commerce;

22 “(B) one shall be appointed by the Sec-
23 retary of Defense;

24 “(C) one shall be appointed by the Attor-
25 ney General;

1 “(D) one shall be appointed by the Chair
2 of the Federal Trade Commission;

3 “(E) one shall be appointed by the Com-
4 missioner of the Internal Revenue Service; and

5 “(F) one shall be appointed by the Admin-
6 istrator of the Social Security Administration.

7 “(3) Up to three members as the Secretary of
8 Veterans Affairs considers appropriate, each of
9 whom shall be a private citizen of the United States
10 appointed by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs.

11 “(b) TERM OF OFFICE AND VACANCIES.—

12 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The term of the private cit-
13 izen members of the Board is six years. If a suc-
14 cessor is chosen to fill a vacancy occurring prior to
15 the expiration of a term, the successor shall be cho-
16 sen only for the remainder of that term.

17 “(2) INITIAL TERMS.—The initial terms of the
18 first private citizen members of the Foundation shall
19 be staggered so that—

20 “(A) the first members appointed under
21 subsections (a)(2)(A) and (B) serve initial
22 terms of six years;

23 “(B) the first members appointed under
24 subsections (a)(2)(C) and (D) serve initial
25 terms of four years;

1 “(C) the first members appointed under
2 subsections (a)(2)(E) and (F) serve initial
3 terms of two years; and

4 “(D) the first members appointed under
5 subsection (a)(3), if any, serve initial terms of
6 six, four, or two years, as determined by the
7 Secretary of Veterans Affairs (or the Sec-
8 retary’s designee), except that no more than
9 one in every three such members may serve an
10 initial term of six years and no more than one
11 in every three may serve an initial term of four
12 years.

13 “(c) CHAIRMAN.—The Secretary of Veterans Affairs
14 (or the Secretary’s designee) shall be the Chairman of the
15 Board.

16 “(d) BOARD MEMBERSHIP NOT AN OFFICE.—Mem-
17 bership on the Board shall not be an office within the
18 meaning of the statutes of the United States.

19 “(e) QUORUM.—A majority of the members of the
20 Board serving at any time shall constitute a quorum for
21 the transaction of business.

22 “(f) SEAL.—The Foundation shall have an official
23 seal selected by the Board, which shall be judicially no-
24 ticed.

1 “(g) MEETINGS.—The Board shall meet at the call
 2 of the Chairman and there shall be at least one meeting
 3 each year.

4 “(h) COMPENSATION AND REIMBURSEMENT.—No
 5 compensation shall be paid to the members of the Board
 6 for their services as members, but they shall be reimbursed
 7 for actual and necessary traveling and subsistence ex-
 8 penses incurred by them in the performance of their duties
 9 as members out of Foundation funds available to the
 10 Board for those purposes.

11 **“§ 8403. Gifts, devises, or bequests**

12 “(a) AUTHORITY TO ACCEPT GIFTS, DEVISES, OR
 13 BEQUESTS.—

14 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Foundation may ac-
 15 cept, receive, solicit, hold, administer, and use any
 16 gifts, devises, or bequests, either absolutely or in
 17 trust of real or personal property, or any income
 18 from, or other interest in, the gift, devise, or be-
 19 quest, for the benefit of, or in connection with, the
 20 Department, its activities, or its services.

21 “(2) COORDINATION WITH DEPARTMENT.—Ac-
 22 tivities of the Foundation under paragraph (1) shall
 23 be undertaken after consultation with the Secretary
 24 of Veterans Affairs to ensure that those activities

1 are consistent with the programs and policies of the
2 Department.

3 “(3) GIFT, DEVISE, OR BEQUEST THAT IS EN-
4 CUMBERED, RESTRICTED, OR SUBJECT TO BENE-
5 FICIAL INTERESTS.—A gift, devise, or bequest may
6 be accepted by the Foundation even though it is en-
7 cumbered, restricted, or subject to beneficial inter-
8 ests of private persons if any current or future inter-
9 est in the gift, devise, or bequest is for the benefit
10 of the Department, its activities, or its services.

11 “(b) WHEN GIFT, DEVISE, OR BEQUEST MAY NOT
12 BE ACCEPTED.—The Foundation may not accept any gift,
13 devise, or bequest that entails any expenditure other than
14 from the resources of the Foundation.

15 **“§ 8404. Disposition of property or income**

16 “(a) AUTHORITY TO DISPOSE OR DEAL WITH PROP-
17 ERTY OR INCOME.—Except as otherwise required by the
18 instrument of transfer, the Foundation may sell, lease, in-
19 vest, reinvest, retain, or otherwise dispose of or deal with
20 any property or income from the property as the Board
21 may determine.

22 “(b) RESTRICTION.—The Foundation shall not en-
23 gage in any business or make any investment that may
24 not lawfully be made by a trust company in the District
25 of Columbia, except that the Foundation may make any

1 investment authorized by the instrument of transfer, and
 2 may retain any property accepted by the Foundation.

3 “(c) USE OF SERVICES AND FACILITIES OF THE DE-
 4 PARTMENT.—The Foundation may utilize the services and
 5 facilities of the Department, and the services and facilities
 6 may be made available on request to the extent practicable
 7 with or without reimbursement. Amounts reimbursed to
 8 the Department shall be returned by the Department to
 9 the account from which the funds for which the reimburse-
 10 ment is made were drawn and may, without further appro-
 11 priation, be expended for any purpose for which the ac-
 12 count is authorized.

13 **“§ 8405. Corporate succession and powers and duties**
 14 **acting as trustee; personal liability for**
 15 **malfeasance**

16 “(a) PERPETUAL SUCCESSION.—The Foundation
 17 shall have perpetual succession.

18 “(b) POWERS AND DUTIES OF TRUSTEE.—The
 19 Foundation shall have all the usual powers and obligations
 20 of a corporation acting as a trustee, including the power
 21 to sue and to be sued in its own name.

22 “(c) PERSONAL LIABILITY OF BOARD MEMBERS.—
 23 The members of the Board shall not be personally liable,
 24 except for malfeasance.

1 **“§ 8406. Corporate powers**

2 “The Foundation shall have the power to enter into
3 contracts, to execute instruments, and generally to do any
4 and all lawful acts necessary or appropriate to its pur-
5 poses.

6 **“§ 8407. Authority of Board**

7 “In carrying out this chapter, the Board may—

8 “(1) adopt bylaws and regulations necessary for
9 the administration of its functions; and

10 “(2) contract for any necessary services.

11 **“§ 8408. Tax exemptions; contributions toward costs**
12 **of local government; contributions, gifts,**
13 **or transfers to or for use of the United**
14 **States**

15 “(a) TAX EXEMPTION.—The Foundation and any in-
16 come or property received or owned by it, and all trans-
17 actions relating to that income or property, shall be ex-
18 empt from all Federal, State, and local taxation.

19 “(b) CONTRIBUTIONS IN LIEU OF TAXES.—The
20 Foundation may—

21 “(1) contribute toward the costs of local govern-
22 ment in amounts not in excess of those which it
23 would be obligated to pay that government if it were
24 not exempt from taxation by virtue of subsection (a)
25 or by virtue of its being a charitable and nonprofit
26 corporation; and

1 “(2) agree to contribute with respect to prop-
2 erty transferred to it and the income derived from
3 the property if the agreement is a condition of the
4 transfer.

5 “(c) TRANSFERS DEEMED TO BE TO OR FOR THE
6 USE OF UNITED STATES.—Contributions, gifts, and other
7 transfers made to or for the use of the Foundation shall
8 be deemed to be contributions, gifts, or transfers to or
9 for the use of the United States.

10 **“§ 8409. Liability of the United States**

11 “The United States shall not be liable for any debts,
12 defaults, acts, or omissions of the Foundation.

13 **“§ 8410. Annual report**

14 “(a) REPORT REQUIRED.—The Foundation shall, as
15 soon as practicable after the end of each fiscal year, trans-
16 mit to the appropriate congressional committees an annual
17 report of its proceedings and activities, including a full
18 and complete statement of its receipts, expenditures, and
19 investments.

20 “(b) DEFINITION.—In this section, the term ‘appro-
21 priate congressional committees’ means—

22 “(1) the Committee on Veterans’ Affairs and
23 the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate; and

1 “(2) the Committee on Veterans’ Affairs and
 2 the Committee on Appropriations of the House of
 3 Representatives.”.

4 (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENTS.—The tables of chap-
 5 ters at the beginning of title 38, United States Code, and
 6 of part VI of such title, are each amended by inserting
 7 after the item relating to chapter 83 the following new
 8 item:

 “84. Veteran Scam Victims Foundation 8401”.

