

119TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 9665

To amend title 38, United States Code, to expand the jurisdiction of Department of Veterans Affairs police officers, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 14, 2026

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

A BILL

To amend title 38, United States Code, to expand the jurisdiction of Department of Veterans Affairs police officers, 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 “VA Police Security
5 Enhancement Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS POLICE SE-**
7 **CURITY ENHANCEMENT.**

8 (a) DEPARTMENT PROPERTY.—Section 901 of title
9 38, United States Code, is amended, in subsection (a)(2),
10 by adding at the end the following: “Such term includes—

1 “(A) land and buildings that are occupied
2 by or under the custody or control of the De-
3 partment;

4 “(B) land and buildings leased by or on
5 behalf of the Department;

6 “(C) land and buildings leased by the De-
7 partment to another entity, including property
8 subject to an enhanced use lease agreement;
9 and

10 “(D) the area immediately surrounding
11 such land or buildings.”.

12 (b) MEMORANDA OF UNDERSTANDING.—Such sec-
13 tion is further amended by adding at the end the following
14 new subsection:

15 “(g) The Secretary shall seek to enter into memo-
16 randa of understanding with the appropriate local, State,
17 and Federal law enforcement agencies to facilitate the ex-
18 ercise of authority by Department police officers on De-
19 partment property under the jurisdiction of such agen-
20 cies.”.

21 (c) AUTHORITIES OF DEPARTMENT POLICE OFFI-
22 CERS.—Section 902(a) of such title is amended—

23 (1) in paragraph (1)—

24 (A) in subparagraph (F), by striking

25 “(E)” and inserting “(G)”;

1 (B) by redesignating subparagraphs (C)
2 through (F) as subparagraphs (E) through (H),
3 respectively; and

4 (C) by inserting after clause (B) the fol-
5 lowing new clauses:

6 “(C) Protect veterans, officials and employees
7 of the Department, other individuals, and Depart-
8 ment property;

9 “(D) Ensure the physical security and oper-
10 ational continuity of facilities of the Department;

11 “(E) Carry out other such security functions as
12 are expressly authorized by statute;”; and

13 (2) by adding at the end the following new
14 paragraphs:

15 “(5) The authorities under paragraph (1) may be ex-
16 ercised off Department property only when—

17 “(A) necessary to protect officials or employees
18 of the Department and Department property;

19 “(B) in hot pursuit; or

20 “(C) pursuant to a written agreement under
21 section 901(g) of this title.”.

22 (d) FACILITY SECURITY; OVERSIGHT.—Such section
23 is further amended by adding at the end the following new
24 subsections:

1 “(e) FACILITY SECURITY MODERNIZATION.—The
2 Secretary shall implement measures to enhance security
3 at facilities of the Department, including—

4 “(1) access controls;

5 “(2) surveillance systems;

6 “(3) rapid response protocols; and

7 “(4) coordination with other law enforcement
8 agencies.

9 “(f) CONGRESSIONAL OVERSIGHT AND REPORT.—(1)
10 Upon request of the Committee on Veterans’ Affairs of
11 the House of Representatives or the Senate, the Secretary,
12 without delay or nonstatutory conditions, shall provide—

13 “(A) policies and directives under this chapter;

14 “(B) data on arrests and use of force by De-
15 partment police officers; and

16 “(C) briefings regarding the operations of De-
17 partment police officers.

18 “(2) The Secretary shall submit to Congress an an-
19 nual report including—

20 “(A) a description of staffing levels of Depart-
21 ment police officers;

22 “(B) an identification of capability gaps among
23 Department police officers;

24 “(C) a description of the training of Depart-
25 ment police officers; and

1 “(D) a description of enforcement activity of
2 Department police officers in the year preceding the
3 report.”.

4 (e) POLICE SECURITY AND OPERATIONS ACCOUNT.—

5 (1) ESTABLISHMENT.—Chapter 9 of such title
6 is amended by adding at the end the following new
7 section:

8 **“§ 906. Veterans Affairs Police and Security Oper-**
9 **ations Account**

10 “(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is hereby established
11 in the Treasury a separate account to be known as the
12 ‘Veterans Affairs Police and Security Operations Ac-
13 count’.

14 “(b) DEPOSITS.—There shall be deposited in the ac-
15 count such amounts as may be appropriated pursuant to
16 subsection (c).

17 “(c) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
18 is authorized to be appropriated to the account amounts
19 for the following purposes:

20 “(1) Employment and training of Department
21 police officers.

22 “(2) Security infrastructure.

23 “(3) Interagency coordination.

1 “(d) SUNSET.—This section shall cease to have effect
2 on the date that is three years after the date of the enact-
3 ment of this section.”.

4 (2) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of con-
5 tents at the beginning of such chapter is amended
6 by adding at the end the following new item:

“906. Veterans Affairs Police and Security Operations Account.”.

7 (f) IMPLEMENTATION.—Not later than 180 days
8 after the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall pre-
9 scribe regulations to enforce the amendments made by this
10 Act.

11 (g) REPORT.—Not later than two years after the date
12 of the enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General of
13 the United States shall submit to the Committees on Vet-
14 erans’ Affairs of the House of Representatives and the
15 Senate a report evaluating—

16 (1) the effectiveness of the authorities provided
17 under sections 901 and 902 of title 38, United
18 States Code;

19 (2) coordination with Federal, State, and local
20 law enforcement;

21 (3) the adequacy of the training and oper-
22 ational standards of Department of Veterans Affairs
23 police officers; and

- 1 (4) recommendations for the continuation,
- 2 modification, or termination of the authorities pro-
- 3 vided under such sections.

