

111TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 1681

To improve the coordination between the Department of Defense and the Department of Veterans Affairs to better provide care to members and the Armed Forces and veterans.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 24, 2009

Mr. BOSWELL introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Armed Services, and in addition to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

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## A BILL

To improve the coordination between the Department of Defense and the Department of Veterans Affairs to better provide care to members and the Armed Forces and veterans.

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 “Veterans Transitional  
5       Assistance Act of 2009”.

1 **SEC. 2. ESTABLISHMENT OF OFFICE OF TRANSITIONAL AS-**  
2 **SISTANCE.**

3 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary of Defense  
4 shall establish in the Department of Defense an office to  
5 be known as the Office of Transitional Assistance, which  
6 shall be responsible for carrying out the responsibilities  
7 of the Secretary under section 1614 of the Wounded War-  
8 rior Act (10 U.S.C. 1071 note).

9 (b) REPORT.—Not later than one year after the date  
10 of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Defense  
11 shall submit to Congress a report on the establishment  
12 of the office under subsection (a).

13 **SEC. 3. TRANSMITTAL OF RECORDS AND CONTACT BY SEC-**  
14 **RETARY OF VETERANS AFFAIRS.**

15 (a) TRANSMITTAL OF RECORDS TO DEPARTMENT OF  
16 VETERANS AFFAIRS.—Upon the discharge or release of  
17 a member of the Armed Forces, the Office of Transitional  
18 Assistance, established under section 2(a), shall transmit  
19 the military service record and contact information of the  
20 member to the Secretary of Veterans Affairs.

21 (b) CONTACTING OF VETERANS.—The Secretary of  
22 Veterans Affairs shall contact each person for whom the  
23 Secretary receives a military service record and contact  
24 information under subsection (a) by not later than 30 days  
25 after the date on which the Secretary receives such record  
26 and information, and shall provide to the person such

1 forms and other information as may be necessary for the  
2 person to apply for any benefits, including medical bene-  
3 fits, to which the person may be entitled under the laws  
4 administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs.

5 (c) REPORT.—Not later than one year after the date  
6 of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Defense and  
7 the Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall submit to Congress  
8 a report on the implementation of this section.

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