

115TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 5622

To improve the ability of the Department of Defense to address sexual offenses, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 25, 2018

Mr. TURNER (for himself and Ms. TSONGAS) introduced the following bill;
which was referred to the Committee on Armed Services

A BILL

To improve the ability of the Department of Defense to address sexual offenses, 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 “Purposefully Expand-
5 ing and Reinforcing the Statutes we Insist Support our
6 Troops Against Military Sexual Trauma Act” or the
7 “PERSIST Against MST Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. OVERSIGHT OF REGISTERED SEX OFFENDER MAN-**
2 **AGEMENT PROGRAM.**

3 (a) DESIGNATION OF OFFICIAL OR ENTITY.—The
4 Secretary of Defense shall designate a single official or
5 entity within the Office of the Secretary of Defense to
6 have the principle responsibility in the Department of De-
7 fense for providing oversight of the registered sex offender
8 management program of the Department.

9 (b) DUTIES.—The official or entity designated under
10 subsection (a) shall—

11 (1) monitor compliance with Department of De-
12 fense Instruction 5525.20;

13 (2) compile data on service members who have
14 been convicted of a qualifying sex offense, including
15 data on the sex offender registration status of each
16 member;

17 (3) maintain statistics of the total number of
18 service members, by military department, who are
19 required to register as sex offenders; and

20 (4) perform such other duties as the Secretary
21 of Defense may require.

22 (c) BRIEFING REQUIRED.—Not later than June 1,
23 2019, the Secretary of Defense shall provide to the Com-
24 mittee on Armed Services of the House of Representatives
25 a briefing on—

1 (1) the compliance of the military departments
2 with the policies of the Department of Defense re-
3 lated to registered sex offenders;

4 (2) the results of the data compiled under sub-
5 section (b); and

6 (3) any other matters determined to be appro-
7 priate by the Secretary.

8 **SEC. 3. POLICY ON EXPEDITED TRANSFERS.**

9 The Secretary of Defense shall issue policy guidance
10 to clarify that section 673 of title 10, United States Code
11 (relating to expedited transfers for members of the armed
12 forces who are victims of a sexual assault or related of-
13 fense), applies to all active duty service members of who
14 are victims of sexual assault or a related offense under
15 article 120, 120a, or 120c of the Uniform Code of Military
16 Justices regardless of whether the service member's sexual
17 assault report is handled by the Sexual Assault Prevention
18 Program or the Family Advocacy Program.

19 **SEC. 4. INFORMATION FROM FEDERAL AGENCIES.**

20 Section 546 of the Carl Levin and Howard P.
21 "Buck" McKeon National Defense Authorization Act for
22 Fiscal Year 2015 (Public Law 113–291; 10 U.S.C. 1561
23 note) is amended by adding at the end the following new
24 subsection:

1 “(f) INFORMATION FROM FEDERAL AGENCIES.—
2 Upon request by the chair of a panel, a department or
3 agency of the Federal Government shall provide informa-
4 tion that the panel considers necessary to carry out its
5 duties under this section.”.

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