

## COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

The Committee on the Judiciary is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, December 12, 2024, at 10 a.m., to conduct an executive business meeting.

## SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON AGING

The Special Committee on Aging is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, December 12, 2024, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT  
AGREEMENT—S. 4367

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that at a time to be determined by the majority leader, in consultation with the Republican leader, and notwithstanding rule XXII, the Chair lay before the Senate the message to accompany S. 4367, to provide for improvements to the rivers and harbors of the United States; that the majority leader, or his designee, be recognized to make a motion to concur in the House amendment to S. 4367, and there be up to 1 hour of debate, equally divided, on the motion to concur; that upon the use or yielding back of time, the Senate vote on the motion to concur in the House amendment to S. 4367, with 60 affirmative votes required for the motion to concur; and that no other motions or amendments be in order.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

DETECTION EQUIPMENT AND  
TECHNOLOGY EVALUATION TO  
COUNTER THE THREAT OF  
FENTANYL AND XYLAZINE ACT  
OF 2024

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs be discharged from further consideration of H.R. 8663, and the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 8663) to require the Science and Technology Directorate in the Department of Homeland Security to develop greater capacity to detect, identify, and disrupt illicit substances in very low concentrations.

There being no objection, the committee was discharged, and the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. SCHUMER. I further ask that the Cornyn-Ossoff substitute amendment be considered and agreed to; that the bill, as amended, be considered read a third time and passed; that the Cornyn-Ossoff title amendment at the desk be considered and agreed to; and that the title, as amended, be agreed to; and that the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The amendment (No. 3329) in the nature of a substitute was agreed to as follows:

(Purpose: In the nature of a substitute)

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

**SECTION 1. SHORT TITLES.**

This Act may be cited as the “Detection Equipment and Technology Evaluation to Counter the Threat of Fentanyl and Xylazine Act of 2024” or the “DETECT Fentanyl and Xylazine Act of 2024”.

**SEC. 2. ENHANCING THE CAPACITY TO DETECT AND IDENTIFY DRUGS SUCH AS FENTANYL AND XYLAZINE.**

Section 302 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 182) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (13), by striking “and” at the end;

(2) in paragraph (14), by striking the period at the end and inserting “; and”; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

“(15) carrying out, in coordination with the Drug Enforcement Administration, research, development, testing, evaluation, and cost-benefit analyses to improve the safety, effectiveness, and efficiency of equipment and the effectiveness and efficiency of reference libraries for use by Federal, State, local, Tribal, and territorial law enforcement agencies for the accurate detection of drugs, such as fentanyl and xylazine, including—

“(A) portable equipment that can detect and identify drugs with minimal or no handling of the sample;

“(B) equipment that can separate complex mixtures containing low concentrations of drugs and high concentrations of cutting agents into their component parts to enable signature extraction for field identification and detection; and

“(C) technologies that use machine learning or artificial intelligence (as defined in section 5002 of the National Artificial Intelligence Initiative Act of 2020 (15 U.S.C. 9401)) and other techniques to predict whether the substances in a sample are controlled substance analogues or other new psychoactive substances not yet included in available reference libraries.”.

**SEC. 3. REQUIREMENTS.**

In carrying out section 302(15) of the Homeland Security Act of 2002, as added by section 2, the Under Secretary for Science and Technology shall—

(1) follow the recommendations, guidelines, and best practices described in the Artificial Intelligence Risk Management Framework (NIST AI 100-1) or any successor document published by the National Institute of Standards and Technology; and

(2) establish the Directorate of Science and Technology’s research, development, testing, evaluation, and cost-benefit analysis priorities under such section 302(15) based on the latest available information, including specific drugs identified as threats in—

(A) the latest Homeland Threat Assessment published by the Department of Homeland Security;

(B) the latest State and Territory Report on Enduring and Emerging Threats published by the Drug Enforcement Administration; or

(C) any successor documents.

**SEC. 4. RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.**

Nothing in this Act may be construed to limit the authority of agencies currently managing, overseeing, or otherwise involved in drug equipment and reference libraries.

The amendment was ordered to be engrossed and the bill to be read a third time.

The bill was read the third time.

The bill (H.R. 8663), as amended, was passed.

The title amendment (No. 3330) was agreed to as follows:

(Purpose: To amend the title)

Amend the title so as to read: “An Act to require the Science and Technology Directorate in the Department of Homeland Security to develop greater capacity to detect and identify illicit substances in very low concentrations.”.

The title, as amended, was agreed to.

## CHANCE TO COMPETE ACT OF 2023

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Calendar No. 651, S. 59.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 59) to implement merit-based reforms to the civil service hiring system that replace degree-based hiring with skills- and competency-based hiring.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill, which had been reported from the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs with an amendment to strike all after the enacting clause and insert in lieu thereof the following:

**SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

This Act may be cited as the “Chance to Compete Act of 2024”.

**SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

(a) AMENDATORY DEFINITIONS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 3304 of title 5, United States Code, is amended—

(A) by redesignating subsections (b) through (g) as subsections (i) through (n), respectively;

(B) by redesignating subsection (a) as subsection (b); and

(C) by inserting before subsection (b), as so redesignated, the following:

“(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

“(1) AGENCY.—The term ‘agency’ means an Executive agency.

“(2) DIRECTOR.—The term ‘Director’ means the Director of the Office.

“(3) EXAMINATION.—The term ‘examination’ means the process by which an applicant demonstrates knowledge, skills, abilities, and competencies.

“(4) EXAMINING AGENCY.—The term ‘examining agency’ means—

“(A) the Office; or

“(B) an agency to which the Director has delegated examining authority under section 1104(a)(2).

“(5) OCCUPATIONAL QUESTIONNAIRE.—The term ‘occupational questionnaire’ means a rating and experience evaluation or assessment questionnaire that—

“(A) is used to screen, rate, and rank an applicant;

“(B) is commonly delivered through automated staffing systems used for Federal hiring; and

“(C) consists of self-ratings of training and experience.

“(6) OFFICE.—The term ‘Office’ means the Office of Personnel Management.

“(7) PASSING SCORE.—The term ‘passing score’ means a minimum acceptable score or rating, consistent with applicable law, that may include a quantitative or qualitative assessment that an applicant can pass or fail.

“(8) RELEVANT COMMITTEES.—The term ‘relevant committees’ means—

“(A) the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate; and

“(B) the Committee on Oversight and Accountability of the House of Representatives.

“(9) RESUME REVIEW.—The term ‘resume review’ means an evaluation of an applicant’s resume that is conducted by a subject matter expert.

“(10) SUBJECT MATTER EXPERT.—The term ‘subject matter expert’ means an employee or selecting official—

“(A) who possesses an understanding of the duties of, and knowledge, skills, and abilities required for, the position for which the employee or selecting official is developing or administering an examination; and

“(B) whom the delegated examining unit of the examining agency that employs the employee or selecting official designates to assist in the development and administration of technical assessments.

“(11) TECHNICAL ASSESSMENT.—The term ‘technical assessment’ means a position-specific tool that is relevant to the position for which the tool is developed that—

“(A) allows for the demonstration of job-related skills, abilities, knowledge, and competencies;

“(B) is based upon a job analysis; and

“(C) does not include an occupational questionnaire.”

(2) TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(A) TITLE 5, UNITED STATES CODE.—Part III of title 5, United States Code, is amended—

(i) in chapter 33—

(I) in section 3302(2), by striking “3304(a)” and inserting “3304(b)”; and

(II) in section 3330a(a)(1)(B), by striking “3304(f)(1)” and inserting “3304(m)(1)”; and

(ii) in section 9810(b), by striking “3304(b)” and inserting “3304(i)”.

(B) ACT TO ESTABLISH A COMMISSION ON SECURITY AND COOPERATION IN EUROPE.—Section 8(d)(2) of the Act entitled, “An Act to establish a Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe”, approved June 3, 1976 (22 U.S.C. 3008(d)(2)) is amended by striking “3304(c)(1)” and inserting “3304(j)(1)”.

(C) U.S.-CHINA RELATIONS ACT OF 2000.—Section 308(e)(2) of the U.S.-China Relations Act of 2000 (22 U.S.C. 6918(e)(2)) is amended by striking “3304(c)(1)” and inserting “3304(j)(1)”.

(D) ENERGY INDEPENDENCE AND SECURITY ACT OF 2007.—Section 136(i)(1) of the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 (42 U.S.C. 17013(i)(1)) is amended by striking “3304(a)(3)” and inserting “3304(b)(3)”.

(E) SUBSECTION HEADINGS.—Section 3304 of title 5, United States Code, as amended by paragraph (1) of this subsection, is amended—

(i) in subsection (b), by striking “The President” and inserting “RULES.—The President”;

(ii) in subsection (i), by striking “An individual” and inserting “EXAMINATION OR EXCEPTION REQUIRED.—An individual”;

(iii) in subsection (j), by striking “(1) For the purpose” and inserting “TECHNICIANS.—(1) For the purpose”;

(iv) in subsection (k), by striking “The Office” and inserting “CONSIDERATION OF EXPERIENCE.—The office”;

(v) in subsection (l), by striking “Employees” and inserting “USE OF PUBLIC BUILDINGS.—Employees”;

(vi) in subsection (m), by striking “(1) Preference eligibles or veterans” and inserting “PREFERENCE ELIGIBLES AND VETERANS.—(1) Preference eligibles or veterans”.

(b) FREESTANDING DEFINITIONS.—In this Act—

(1) each term that is defined in section 3304(a) of title 5, United States Code, as added by subsection (a) of this section, shall have the meaning given the term in such section 3304(a); and

(2) the term “competitive service” has the meaning given the term in section 2102 of title 5, United States Code.

### SEC. 3. MODERNIZING FEDERAL HIRING.

Section 3304 of title 5, United States Code, is amended by inserting after subsection (b), as redesignated by section 2, the following:

“(c) EXAMINATIONS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—For the purpose of testing applicants for appointment for a position, or class of positions, in the competitive service, an examining agency shall conduct an examination pursuant to subsection (b).

“(2) INTERIM EXAMINATION PERIOD.—

“(A) PREFERENCE FOR TECHNICAL ASSESSMENT.—During the 3-year period beginning on the date of enactment of the Chance to Compete Act of 2024, an examining agency shall prefer the use of a technical assessment, to the maximum extent practicable, to assess the job-related skills, abilities, knowledge, and competencies of an applicant for a position in the competitive service.

“(B) USE OF OCCUPATIONAL QUESTIONNAIRE.—During the 3-year period beginning on the date of enactment of the Chance to Compete Act of 2024, if an examining agency determines that the use of a technical assessment to assess the job-related skills, abilities, knowledge, and competencies of an applicant for a position in the competitive service is not practicable, the examining agency may use an occupational questionnaire for that purpose if the examining agency—

“(i) includes a brief description of the rationale for the use of the occupational questionnaire in the job posting; and

“(ii) adheres to the process under subsection (e).

“(3) TRANSITION PLANNING.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—Not later 18 months after the date of enactment of the Chance to Compete Act of 2024, the Director shall submit to the relevant committees a plan to transition Federal hiring practices to adopt technical assessments in accordance with subsection (d), which shall include—

“(i) the prioritization of—

“(I) job classifications; and

“(II) resource requirements; and

“(ii) a timeline for full implementation of the transition.

“(B) ADDITIONAL CONSULTATION.—In developing the plan under subparagraph (A), the Director shall consult with, at minimum—

“(i) the Director of the Office of Management and Budget;

“(ii) the Chair of the Chief Human Capital Officers Council;

“(iii) employee representatives; and

“(iv) relevant external stakeholders.

“(4) IMPLEMENTATION OF TECHNICAL ASSESSMENTS.—

“(A) IMPLEMENTATION OF PLAN.—Not later than 3 years after the date of enactment of the Chance to Compete Act of 2024, the Director shall implement the plan submitted under paragraph (3).

“(B) ADOPTION OF TECHNICAL ASSESSMENTS.—On and after the date that is 3 years after the date of enactment of the Chance to Compete Act of 2024, an examining agency shall use a technical assessment to examine applicants for positions in the competitive service in accordance with subsection (d).

“(C) WAIVER.—

“(i) IN GENERAL.—The requirement under subparagraph (B) shall not apply to an examining agency with respect to a particular job series if—

“(I) the examining agency determines that use of a technical assessment is impracticable for the job series;

“(II) the head of the examining agency submits to the Director and the relevant committees a certification that use of the technical assessment is impracticable, which certification shall include—

“(aa) identification of the job series;

“(bb) identification of the number of positions that are included in the job series within the agency for which the examining agency is conducting examinations; and

“(cc) a description of the rationale for the determination; and

“(III) the examining agency adheres to the process under subsection (e).

“(ii) EFFECTIVENESS OF WAIVER.—A waiver under this subparagraph shall be effective for the period—

“(I) beginning on the date that is 1 day after the date on which the applicable certification is submitted under clause (i)(II); and

“(II) ending on the date that is 3 years after the date on which the applicable certification is submitted under clause (i)(II).

“(iii) RENEWAL OF WAIVER.—The head of an examining agency may renew a waiver under this subparagraph by submitting a new certification under clause (i)(II) not more than 30 days before the date that is 3 years after the date on which the previous certification was submitted under that clause.

“(iv) NO DELEGATION OF CERTIFICATION AUTHORITY.—The head of an examining agency may not delegate the authority to submit a certification under clause (i)(II).

“(d) TECHNICAL ASSESSMENT.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—For the purpose of conducting an examination for a position in the competitive service, an individual who is determined by an examining agency to be a subject matter expert in the subject and job field of the position may—

“(A) develop, in partnership with human resources employees of the examining agency, a position-specific assessment that is relevant to the position, based on job analysis, which may include—

“(i) a structured interview;

“(ii) a work-related exercise;

“(iii) a custom or generic procedure used to measure an applicant’s employment or career-related qualifications and interests; or

“(iv) another assessment that—

“(I) allows for the demonstration of job-related technical skills, abilities, and knowledge; and

“(II) is relevant to the position for which the assessment is developed; and

“(B) administer the assessment developed under subparagraph (A) to—

“(i) determine whether an applicant for the position has a passing score to be qualified for the position; or

“(ii) rank applicants for the position for category rating purposes under section 3319.

“(2) FEASIBILITY STUDY ON SHARING AND CUSTOMIZATION OF ASSESSMENT.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of the Chance to Compete Act of 2024, the Director shall—

“(A) conduct a feasibility study that examines the practicability, including a cost benefit analysis, of—

“(i) the sharing of technical assessments by an examining agency with another examining agency;

“(ii) mechanisms for each examining agency to maintain appropriate control over examination material that is shared by the examining agency as described in clause (i);

“(iii) limits on customization of a technical assessment that is shared as described in clause (i) and mechanisms to ensure that the resulting technical assessment satisfies the requirements under part 300 of title 5, Code of Federal Regulations (or any successor regulation); and

“(iv) the development of an online platform on which examining agencies can share and customize technical assessments as described in this subparagraph; and

“(B) submit to the relevant committees a report on the study conducted under subparagraph (A).

“(e) OCCUPATIONAL QUESTIONNAIRE.—For the purpose of conducting an examination for a position in the competitive service for which an examining agency has determined that a technical assessment is impracticable under paragraph (2)(B) or (4)(C) of subsection (c), the examining agency shall—

“(1) develop an occupational questionnaire in accordance with guidance or regulations of the Office; and

“(2) undertake a resume review for each candidate who is referred for additional consideration after analysis of the results of the occupational questionnaire is complete.

“(f) FEDERAL AGENCY TALENT TEAMS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—An agency may establish 1 or more agency talent teams, including at the component level.

“(2) DUTIES.—An agency talent team shall provide hiring support to the agency, including by—

“(A) improving examinations;

“(B) facilitating the writing of job announcements for the competitive service;

“(C) sharing high-quality certificates of eligible applicants; and

“(D) facilitating hiring for the competitive service using examinations.

“(g) OFFICE OF PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT TALENT TEAM.—The Director may establish a Federal talent team to support agency talent teams by—

“(1) facilitating hiring actions across the Federal Government;

“(2) providing training;

“(3) creating tools and guides to facilitate hiring for the competitive service; and

“(4) developing technical assessments.

“(h) RULEMAKING.—The Director shall promulgate such regulations as are necessary to implement and interpret this section.”.

#### SEC. 4. COMPETITIVE SERVICE CANDIDATE HIRING AND REFORM.

(a) REVIEW.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Director shall conduct a review of examinations for hiring for each position in the competitive service that an examining agency has determined requires a minimum educational requirement because the position is of a scientific, technical, or professional nature pursuant to section 3308 of title 5, United States Code, to determine whether data, evidence, or other information justifies the need for educational requirements for the position.

(2) CONSULTATION.—In carrying out paragraph (1), the Director shall consult with, at minimum—

(A) agencies, as deemed appropriate by the Director;

(B) employee representatives;

(C) external experts; and

(D) relevant stakeholders.

(b) REPORT ON HIRING PRACTICES.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Director shall submit to the relevant committees recommendations to amend the hiring practices of examining agencies in accordance with the findings of the review conducted under subsection (a)(1).

#### SEC. 5. REPORTS.

(a) IMPLEMENTATION REPORTS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, and each year thereafter ending with the fifth publication and submission of the report, the Director shall publish on a public-facing website, and submit to the relevant committees, a report that—

(A) examines the progress of examining agencies in implementing the requirements of this Act and the amendments made by this Act; and

(B) identifies any significant difficulties encountered in the implementation described in subparagraph (A).

(2) INCLUSION IN ANNUAL REPORT.—The Director may include the report required under paragraph (1) as an addendum to the report required under subsection (b).

(3) DELAYED REPORTING.—If the Director is unable to publish and submit the report within the timeline required under paragraph (1), the Director shall publish on a public-facing website, and submit to the relevant committees, a notification of the delay that—

(A) provides a reason for the delay; and

(B) advises the public and the relevant committees of the anticipated date of publication and submission of the report.

(b) ANNUAL REPORT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, and each year thereafter, the Director shall publish on a public-facing website and submit to the relevant committees a report that, with respect to categories of positions in the competitive service for which an examining agency examined applicants during the applicable period, includes—

(A) the type of examination used; and

(B) summary data from examinations that are closed, audited, and anonymous on the use of examinations for the competitive service, including technical assessments.

(2) DEMOGRAPHIC INDICATORS.—In carrying out paragraph (1), the Director shall break the data down by applicant demographic indicators to facilitate direct comparability and trendline comparisons to data available as of October 1, 2020, as a baseline.

(3) LIMITATIONS.—In carrying out this subsection, the Director may only publish and submit to the relevant committees data relating to examinations for which—

(A) the related announcement is closed;

(B) certificates have been audited; and

(C) all hiring processes are completed.

(4) DELAYED REPORTING.—If the Director is unable to publish and submit the report within the timeline required under paragraph (1), the Director shall publish on a public-facing website, and submit to the relevant committees, a notification of the delay that—

(A) provides a reason for the delay; and

(B) advises the public and the relevant committees of the anticipated date of publication and submission of the report.

(c) PROVISION OF DATA BY AGENCIES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Director shall issue guidance to examining agencies regarding the data that the Director needs from the examining agencies in order to comply with subsections (a) and (b).

(2) REPORTING TIMELINES.—Each examining agency shall provide the data outlined in the guidance issued by the Director under paragraph (1) on a quarterly basis.

#### SEC. 6. GAO REPORT.

Not later than 3 years after the date of enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General of the United States shall submit to Congress a report that—

(1) assesses the implementation of this Act and the amendments made by this Act;

(2) assesses the impact of modifications made by this Act to the hiring process for the competitive service under section 3304 of title 5, United States Code; and

(3) makes recommendations for the improvement of the hiring process for the competitive service.

#### SEC. 7. EVALUATION FOR POTENTIAL UPDATES OR REVISIONS TO GOVERNMENT-WIDE SYSTEMS OF RECORDS AT THE OFFICE OF PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Director shall evaluate whether the Government-wide system of records notices, the OPM/GOVT-5 Recruiting, Examining, and Placement Records, and the OPM/GOVT-6 Personnel Research and Test Validation Records, or any successor materials thereto, require updating or revision in order to support the implementation of this Act and the amendments made by this Act.

(b) ISSUANCE OF UPDATES OR REVISIONS; NOTICE TO CONGRESS.—If the Director determines under subsection (a) that any updates or revisions are necessary, the Director, in accordance with section 552a of title 5, United States Code (commonly known as the “Privacy Act”), shall promptly—

(1) issue the updates or revisions; and

(2) notify the relevant committees.

Mr. SCHUMER. I ask unanimous consent that the committee-reported sub-

stitute amendment be withdrawn; that the Sinema substitute amendment, which is at the desk, be considered and agreed to; that the bill, as amended, be considered read a third time and passed; and that the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The committee-reported amendment in the nature of a substitute was withdrawn.

The amendment (No. 3325) in the nature of a substitute was agreed to.

(The amendment is printed in today’s RECORD under “Text of Amendments.”)

The bill (S. 59), as amended, was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

#### VETERANS BENEFITS IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 2023

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Veterans’ Affairs be discharged from further consideration of S. 2513, and the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 2513) to amend title 38, United States Code, to improve benefits administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes.

There being no objection, the committee was discharged, and the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. SCHUMER. I ask unanimous consent that the Moran-Tester substitute amendment be considered and agreed to; the bill, as amended, be considered read a third time and passed; and the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The amendment (No. 3326) in the nature of a substitute was agreed to.

(The amendment is printed in today’s RECORD under “Text of Amendments.”)

The bill (S. 2513), as amended, was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

#### ELIZABETH DOLE HOME AND COMMUNITY BASED SERVICES FOR VETERANS AND CAREGIVERS ACT OF 2023

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Veterans’ Affairs be discharged from further consideration of S. 141 and the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 141) to amend title 38, United States Code, to improve certain programs of the Department of Veterans Affairs for home