

Union Calendar No. 492

118TH CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

H. R. 5938

[Report No. 118–592]

To amend the Veterans' Benefits Improvements Act of 1996 and the Johnny Isakson and David P. Roe, M.D. Veterans Health Care and Benefits Improvement Act of 2020 to improve the temporary licensure requirements for contract health care professionals who perform medical disability examinations for the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

OCTOBER 12, 2023

Mr. CISCOMANI (for himself and Mrs. CHERFILUS-McCORMICK) introduced the following bill

OCTOBER 25, 2023

Referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs

JULY 18, 2024

Additional sponsors: Ms. BROWNLEY, Mr. MURPHY, and Mr. MOYLAN

JULY 18, 2024

Reported with an amendment, committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union, and ordered to be printed

[Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert the part printed in *italie*]

[For text of introduced bill, see copy of bill as introduced on October 12, 2023]

A BILL

To amend the Veterans' Benefits Improvements Act of 1996 and the Johnny Isakson and David P. Roe, M.D. Veterans Health Care and Benefits Improvement Act of 2020 to improve the temporary licensure requirements for contract health care professionals who perform medical disability examinations for the Department of Veterans Affairs, 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 “Veterans Exam Expan-*
5 *sion Act of 2023”.*

6 **SEC. 2. IMPROVEMENTS TO TEMPORARY LICENSURE RE-**
7 **QUIREMENTS FOR CONTRACT HEALTH CARE**
8 **PROFESSIONALS WHO PERFORM MEDICAL**
9 **DISABILITY EXAMINATIONS FOR THE DE-**
10 **PARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS.**

11 *(a) EXPANSION.—*

12 *(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 504(c)(2) of the Vet-*
13 *erans’ Benefits Improvements Act of 1996 (Public*
14 *Law 104–275; 38 U.S.C. 5101 note), as amended by*
15 *paragraph (1) of subsection (a) of section 2002 of the*
16 *Johnny Isakson and David P. Roe, M.D. Veterans*
17 *Health Care and Benefits Improvement Act of 2020*
18 *(Public Law 116–315; 38 U.S.C. 5101 note), is fur-*
19 *ther amended, subject to the sunset in paragraph (4)*
20 *of such subsection—*

21 *(A) in the matter preceding subparagraph*
22 *(A), by striking “or psychologist” and inserting*
23 *“psychologist, podiatrist, dentist, optometrist, or*
24 *other health care professional specified in regula-*
25 *tions prescribed by the Secretary”; and*

1 (B) in subparagraph (A), by striking “the
2 physician, physician assistant, nurse practi-
3 tioner, audiologist, or psychologist, as the case
4 may be” and inserting “such health care profes-
5 sional”.

6 (2) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section
7 2002(a)(2) of the Johnny Isakson and David P. Roe,
8 M.D. Veterans Health Care and Benefits Improve-
9 ment Act of 2020 (Public Law 116–315; 38 U.S.C.
10 5101 note) is amended by striking “physicians assist-
11 ants, nurse practitioners, audiologists, and psycholo-
12 gists” and inserting “health care professionals”.

13 (b) REPORT.—Not later than 15 months after the date
14 of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Veterans Af-
15 fairs shall submit to the Committees on Veterans’ Affairs
16 of the Senate and House of Representatives a report regard-
17 ing the use of the authority under section 504 of the Vet-
18 erans’ Benefits Improvements Act of 1996 (Public Law
19 104–275; 38 U.S.C. 5101 note), as temporarily amended
20 by section 2002(a)(1) of the Johnny Isakson and David P.
21 Roe, M.D. Veterans Health Care and Benefits Improvement
22 Act of 2020 (Public Law 116–315; 38 U.S.C. 5101 note)
23 and by subsection (a). Such report shall include, with re-
24 spect to the one-year period after the date of the enactment
25 of this Act, the following elements:

1 (1) *The number of examinations conducted pur-*
2 *suant to a contract under such authority.*

3 (2) *The number of such examinations conducted*
4 *in each State, the District of Columbia, or a Com-*
5 *monwealth, territory, or possession of the United*
6 *States.*

7 (3) *The numbers of each kind of health care pro-*
8 *essionals who conducted such examinations.*

9 (4) *The number of examinations that were erro-*
10 *neously conducted by a health care professional—*

11 (A) *without such a contract; or*

12 (B) *unauthorized to enter into such a con-*
13 *tract.*

14 (5) *The plan of the Secretary to correct errors in*
15 *the use of such authority.*

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