(Original Signature of Member)

118TH CONGRESS 2D Session



Making supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2024, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. MIKE GARCIA of California (for himself, Mr. CARTER of Georgia, Mr. COLE, Mr. VALADAO, Mr. BOST, and Mr. CALVERT) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on

A BILL

Making supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2024, 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 That the following sums are appropriated, out of any
- 4 money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, for the
- 5 fiscal year ending September 30, 2024, and for other pur-
- 6 poses, namely:

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1	DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS
2	Veterans Benefits Administration
3	COMPENSATION AND PENSIONS
4	For an additional amount for "Compensation and
5	Pensions", \$2,285,513,000, to remain available until ex-
6	pended.
7	Veterans Benefits Administration
8	READJUSTMENT BENEFITS
9	For an additional amount for "Readjustment Bene-
10	fits", \$596,969,000, to remain available until expended.
11	GENERAL PROVISIONS—THIS ACT
12	SEC. 101. Each amount appropriated or made avail-
13	able by this Act is in addition to amounts otherwise appro-
14	priated for the fiscal year involved.
15	SEC. 102. Unless otherwise provided for by this Act,
16	the additional amounts appropriated by this Act to appro-
17	priations accounts shall be available under the authorities
18	and conditions applicable to such appropriations accounts
19	for fiscal year 2024.
20	SEC. 103. (a) BUDGET FORMULATION AND FORE-
21	CASTING.—Not later than 30 days after the date of enact-
22	ment of this Act, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall
23	submit to the Committees on Appropriations and the Com-
24	mittees on Veterans Affairs of the House of Representa-
25	tives and the Senate a report detailing corrections the De-

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partment will make to improve forecasting, data quality
and budget assumptions relating to budget submissions
for funds provided under the headings "Compensations
and Pensions" and "Readjustment Benefits".

5 (b) REPORTING REQUIREMENT.—Not later than 60 days after the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Vet-6 7 erans Affairs shall submit to the Committees on Appro-8 priations and the Committees on Veterans Affairs of the 9 House of Representatives and the Senate a report on status of funds made available under the headings "Com-10 pensations and Pensions" and "Readjustment Benefits" 11 12 for fiscal years 2024, 2025, and 2026 in this or any other 13 Act. Provided, That such report shall be updated and submitted to such Committees every 90 days thereafter until 14 15 September 30, 2026, and shall include information detailing any changes to estimates or assumptions on obliga-16 tions and expenditures, including data supporting these 17 18 changes.

19 SEC. 104. (a) The Inspector General of the Depart-20 ment of Veterans Affairs shall conduct a review of the cir-21 cumstances surrounding and the underlying causes of the 22 announced funding shortfall for the Veterans Benefits Ad-23 ministration for fiscal year 2024 described in the letter 24 to Congress from the Secretary of Veterans Affairs on 25 July 19, 2024, and the announced funding shortfall for 4

the Veterans Health Administration in fiscal year 2025
described in the letter to Congress from the Secretary of
Veterans Affairs on July 31, 2024.

4 (b) Relating to the shortfall in the funding of the Vet-5 erans Benefits Administration in fiscal year 2024 and the expected shortfall in the funding of the Veterans Health 6 7 Administration in fiscal year 2025, the review shall in-8 clude, but not be limited to: a comparison of monthly obli-9 gations and expenditures in relevant accounts against the 10 spend plan of the Department; the reasons for any significant diversions of obligations or expenditures from the 11 spend plan; an analysis of the accuracy of projections and 12 13 estimates relevant to such diversions; and any other matter determined relevant by the Inspector General. 14

15 (c) Relating to the expected shortfall in the funding of the Veterans Health Administration in fiscal year 2025, 16 17 the review also shall include: any changes, abnormalities, or significant events as determined significant by the In-18 spector General of the Department of Veterans Affairs in 19 20 the transfer, reallocation, or other movement of funding 21 between or within the Central Office, a Veterans Inte-22 grated Service Network, a facility, a program or office, 23 a special purpose fund, the Veterans Equitable Resource Allocation process, or the Medical Center Allocation Sys-24 25 tem.

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(d) Actions the Department of Veterans Affairs can
take to improve the accuracy of supporting information
submitted under section 1105(a) of title 31, United States
Code, with respect to the Department of Veterans Affairs
and to prevent funding shortfalls for the Department.

6 (e) Not later than 180 days after the date of enact-7 ment of this Act, the Inspector General of the Department 8 of Veterans Affairs shall submit to the Committees on Ap-9 propriations and the Committees on Veterans Affairs of 10 the House of Representatives and the Senate a report de-11 tailing the conduct and findings of the review.

12 This Act may be cited as the "Veterans Benefits Con-13 tinuity and Accountability Supplemental Appropriations14 Act, 2024".