

HR 4914

Veterans' Choice of Representation Act

Congress: 109 (2005–2007, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Armed Forces and National Security

Introduced: Mar 9, 2006

Current Status: Unfavorable Executive Comment Received from Veterans' Affairs.

Latest Action: Unfavorable Executive Comment Received from Veterans' Affairs. (Oct 6, 2006)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/109th-congress/house-bill/4914>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Evans, Lane [D-IL-17]

Party: Democratic • State: IL • Chamber: House

Cosponsors (8 total)

| Cosponsor | Party / State | Role | Date Joined |
|-----------------------------------|---------------|------|--------------|
| Rep. Berkley, Shelley [D-NV-1] | D · NV | | Mar 9, 2006 |
| Rep. Filner, Bob [D-CA-51] | D · CA | | Mar 16, 2006 |
| Rep. Conyers, John, Jr. [D-MI-14] | D · MI | | Jun 7, 2006 |
| Rep. Israel, Steve [D-NY-2] | D · NY | | Jun 7, 2006 |
| Rep. Strickland, Ted [D-OH-6] | D · OH | | Jun 7, 2006 |
| Rep. Grijalva, Raúl M. [D-AZ-7] | D · AZ | | Jun 8, 2006 |
| Rep. Carson, Julia [D-IN-7] | D · IN | | Jun 28, 2006 |
| Rep. Barrow, John [D-GA-12] | D · GA | | Jul 24, 2006 |

Committee Activity

| Committee | Chamber | Activity | Date |
|-----------------------------|---------|-------------|-------------|
| Veterans' Affairs Committee | House | Referred To | Mar 9, 2006 |

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Armed Forces and National Security

Related Bills

No related bills are listed.

Veterans' Choice of Representation Act - Amends federal law concerning a veteran's representation by an agent or attorney to allow the payment of attorney fees from the date the claimant files a Notice of Disagreement in the case. (Currently, such fees may not be paid before the Board of Veterans' Appeals first makes a final decision in the case.) Repeals the requirement that, in order to be paid, an attorney must be retained within a one-year period after the case has begun.

Authorizes: (1) the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to review an attorney's fee agreement and order a reduction if the Secretary finds that the fee is excessive or unreasonable; and (2) judicial review of such findings.

Requires (currently, authorizes) the Secretary to direct the payment of attorney fees out of any past-due benefits awarded to a veteran in a proceeding.

Actions Timeline

- **Oct 6, 2006:** Unfavorable Executive Comment Received from Veterans' Affairs.
- **Jun 12, 2006:** Executive Comment Requested from Veterans' Affairs.
- **Mar 9, 2006:** Introduced in House
- **Mar 9, 2006:** Introduced in House
- **Mar 9, 2006:** Referred to the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs.