

## HR 616

Department of Veterans Affairs Claims Backlog Reduction Act of 2005

**Congress:** 109 (2005–2007, Ended)

**Chamber:** House

**Policy Area:** Armed Forces and National Security

**Introduced:** Feb 8, 2005

**Current Status:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Disability Assistance and Memorial Affairs.

**Latest Action:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Disability Assistance and Memorial Affairs. (Apr 4, 2005)

**Official Text:** <https://www.congress.gov/bill/109th-congress/house-bill/616>

### Sponsor

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**Name:** Rep. Baca, Joe [D-CA-43]

**Party:** Democratic • **State:** CA • **Chamber:** House

**Cosponsors** (38 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Bishop, Sanford D., Jr. [D-GA-2]	D · GA		Feb 8, 2005
Rep. Cardoza, Dennis A. [D-CA-18]	D · CA		Feb 8, 2005
Rep. Carson, Julia [D-IN-7]	D · IN		Feb 8, 2005
Rep. Foley, Mark [R-FL-16]	R · FL		Feb 8, 2005
Rep. Green, Gene [D-TX-29]	D · TX		Feb 8, 2005
Rep. Holden, Tim [D-PA-17]	D · PA		Feb 8, 2005
Rep. Jones, Stephanie Tubbs [D-OH-11]	D · OH		Feb 8, 2005
Rep. Lowey, Nita M. [D-NY-18]	D · NY		Feb 8, 2005
Rep. Moore, Dennis [D-KS-3]	D · KS		Feb 8, 2005
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Rep. Sanders, Bernard [I-VT-At Large]	I · VT		Feb 8, 2005
Rep. Scott, David [D-GA-13]	D · GA		Feb 8, 2005
Rep. Tauscher, Ellen O. [D-CA-10]	D · CA		Feb 8, 2005
Rep. Wynn, Albert Russell [D-MD-4]	D · MD		Feb 8, 2005
Rep. Berry, Marion [D-AR-1]	D · AR		Feb 15, 2005
Rep. Honda, Michael M. [D-CA-15]	D · CA		Feb 15, 2005
Rep. McDermott, Jim [D-WA-7]	D · WA		Feb 15, 2005
Rep. Owens, Major R. [D-NY-11]	D · NY		Feb 15, 2005
Rep. Peterson, Collin C. [D-MN-7]	D · MN		Feb 15, 2005
Rep. Schiff, Adam B. [D-CA-29]	D · CA		Feb 15, 2005
Rep. Souder, Mark E. [R-IN-3]	R · IN		Feb 15, 2005
Rep. Case, Ed [D-HI-2]	D · HI		Feb 17, 2005
Rep. Emanuel, Rahm [D-IL-5]	D · IL		Feb 17, 2005
Rep. McIntyre, Mike [D-NC-7]	D · NC		Feb 17, 2005
Rep. McCarthy, Carolyn [D-NY-4]	D · NY		Mar 3, 2005
Rep. Slaughter, Louise McIntosh [D-NY-28]	D · NY		Mar 8, 2005
Rep. Stark, Fortney Pete [D-CA-13]	D · CA		Apr 14, 2005
Rep. Ford, Harold E., Jr. [D-TN-9]	D · TN		Jun 17, 2005
Rep. Lynch, Stephen F. [D-MA-9]	D · MA		Jun 17, 2005
Rep. Millender-McDonald, Juanita [D-CA-37]	D · CA		Jun 17, 2005
Rep. Waxman, Henry A. [D-CA-30]	D · CA		Jun 17, 2005
Rep. Filner, Bob [D-CA-51]	D · CA		Sep 13, 2005
Rep. Hinchey, Maurice D. [D-NY-22]	D · NY		Sep 13, 2005
Rep. Terry, Lee [R-NE-2]	R · NE		Sep 13, 2005
Rep. Brown, Sherrod [D-OH-13]	D · OH		Oct 7, 2005
Rep. Holt, Rush [D-NJ-12]	D · NJ		Nov 3, 2005
Rep. Wexler, Robert [D-FL-19]	D · FL		Nov 3, 2005
Rep. Pombo, Richard W. [R-CA-11]	R · CA		Mar 28, 2006

### Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Veterans' Affairs Committee	House	Referred to	Apr 4, 2005

### Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Armed Forces and National Security

### Related Bills

No related bills are listed.

### Summary (as of Feb 8, 2005)

Department of Veterans Affairs Claims Backlog Reduction Act of 2005 - Directs the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to: (1) identify the current backlog of veterans' claims for benefits through the Department of Veterans Affairs and to categorize those claims; and (2) identify claims that need further development and refer them to a geographically appropriate County Veterans Service Office. Allows veterans' claims to be submitted to County Veterans Service Officers (in lieu of the Department) and authorizes the Officers to fully develop such claims. Requires appropriate information sharing between the Department's Benefits Delivery Network and the Offices.

Requires funding provided by this Act to be allocated to States based on their respective populations of veterans and allocates such funds to the appropriate Office. Prohibits Federal funding from exceeding 50 percent of the costs of Office operations. Allows funding to be used to establish Officer programs in States that do not have one.

### Actions Timeline

- **Apr 4, 2005:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Disability Assistance and Memorial Affairs.
- **Feb 8, 2005:** Introduced in House
- **Feb 8, 2005:** Introduced in House
- **Feb 8, 2005:** Referred to the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs.