

HR 5576

Veteran Claims Backlog Reduction Act of 2008

Congress: 110 (2007–2009, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Armed Forces and National Security

Introduced: Mar 11, 2008

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

Latest Action: Referred to the Subcommittee on Disability Assistance and Memorial Affairs. (Mar 14, 2008)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/110th-congress/house-bill/5576>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Buyer, Steve [R-IN-4]

Party: Republican • State: IN • Chamber: House

Cosponsors (1 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Lamborn, Doug [R-CO-5]	R · CO		Mar 11, 2008

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Veterans' Affairs Committee	House	Referred to	Mar 14, 2008

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Armed Forces and National Security

Related Bills

No related bills are listed.

Veteran Claims Backlog Reduction Act of 2008 - Requires that, in order to be recognized as an agent or attorney of a veteran in the preparation, presentation, and prosecution of veterans' benefit claims, an individual must certify to the Secretary of Veterans Affairs that he or she will assist the Secretary with the Secretary's duties to notify claimants of required claim information and evidence and to assist claimants in obtaining evidence. Directs the Secretary to establish a training program to provide training to individuals recognized as veterans' agents, attorneys, or representatives.

Requires a claim certified as fully developed and submitted by a veteran and a recognized agent, attorney, or representative who is a training graduate to be considered as fully developed and evaluated on the evidence provided.

Directs the Secretary to: (1) at least once every fiscal year, conduct a quality control assessment of 1% of the ratings specialists and veterans service representatives employed by the Veterans Benefits Administration (VBA) of the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA); (2) carry out a pilot program to develop and maintain a system for processing disability compensation claims using rules-based technology; (3) treat a veteran's beneficiary as a veteran claimant for incomplete claims as of the veteran's death; (4) evaluate training and assessment programs for VBA employees; (5) allow for the electronic monitoring of a veteran's claim status; and (6) carry out a pilot program allowing a veteran to submit a claim to any VA regional office.

Establishes in the VA an Executive Management Fellowship Program to provide private sector claims processing training and experience for VBA employees.

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### **Actions Timeline**

- **Mar 14, 2008:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Disability Assistance and Memorial Affairs.
- **Mar 11, 2008:** Introduced in House
- **Mar 11, 2008:** Referred to the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs.