

S 2231

MEPS Act

Congress: 113 (2013–2015, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Armed Forces and National Security

Introduced: Apr 9, 2014

Current Status: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Armed Services.

Latest Action: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Armed Services. (Apr 9, 2014)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/113th-congress/senate-bill/2231>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Portman, Rob [R-OH]

Party: Republican • **State:** OH • **Chamber:** Senate

Cosponsors (7 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Rockefeller, John D., IV [D-WV]	D · WV		Apr 9, 2014
Sen. Manchin, Joe, III [D-WV]	D · WV		Apr 30, 2014
Sen. Warner, Mark R. [D-VA]	D · VA		May 6, 2014
Sen. Kirk, Mark Steven [R-IL]	R · IL		May 22, 2014
Sen. Heinrich, Martin [D-NM]	D · NM		Jul 9, 2014
Sen. Coons, Christopher A. [D-DE]	D · DE		Jul 10, 2014
Sen. Toomey, Patrick [R-PA]	R · PA		Sep 8, 2014

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Armed Services Committee	Senate	Referred To	Apr 9, 2014

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Armed Forces and National Security

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
113 HR 4305	Related bill	Jul 1, 2014: Referred to the Subcommittee on Military Personnel.

Medical Evaluation Parity for Servicemembers Act of 2014 or the MEPS Act - Directs the Secretary of the military department concerned to: (1) provide an individual with a mental health assessment before such individual enlists, or is commissioned as an officer, in the Armed Forces; and (2) use assessment results as a baseline for any subsequent mental health examination. Prohibits such Secretary from considering the results of such assessment in determining the assignment or promotion of a member of the Armed Forces.

Requires the National Institute of Mental Health of the National Institutes of Health (NIH) to submit to Congress and the Secretary of Defense (DOD) a report on preliminary mental health assessments of members, including recommendations regarding: (1) establishing such an assessment to bring mental health screenings to parity with physical screenings of members; and (2) the composition of the assessment, best practices, and how to track assessment changes relating to traumatic brain injuries, post-traumatic stress disorder, and other conditions.

Requires the Secretary concerned to provide a comprehensive physical examination and a mental health screening to each member who, after a period of active duty of more than 180 days, is undergoing separation from the Armed Forces and is not otherwise provided such examination or screening in connection with such separation from either DOD or the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA).

Directs the Secretary of Defense to submit to Congress an assessment of DOD's capacity to provide each member who is undergoing separation an electronic copy of the member's service treatment record at the time of separation.

Actions Timeline

- **Apr 9, 2014:** Introduced in Senate
- **Apr 9, 2014:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Armed Services.