

HR 3593

VA Construction Assistance Act of 2014

Congress: 113 (2013–2015, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Armed Forces and National Security

Introduced: Nov 21, 2013

Current Status: Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

Latest Action: Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs. (Sep 17, 2014)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/113th-congress/house-bill/3593>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Coffman, Mike [R-CO-6]

Party: Republican • **State:** CO • **Chamber:** House

Cosponsors (7 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Kirkpatrick, Ann [D-AZ-1]	D · AZ		Nov 21, 2013
Rep. Gardner, Cory [R-CO-4]	R · CO		Jan 7, 2014
Rep. Tipton, Scott R. [R-CO-3]	R · CO		Feb 25, 2014
Rep. Lamborn, Doug [R-CO-5]	R · CO		Feb 27, 2014
Rep. Roe, David P. [R-TN-1]	R · TN		Apr 3, 2014
Rep. Stivers, Steve [R-OH-15]	R · OH		Apr 28, 2014
Rep. Forbes, J. Randy [R-VA-4]	R · VA		Jun 17, 2014

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Veterans' Affairs Committee	House	Discharged from	Mar 7, 2014
Veterans' Affairs Committee	House	Hearings By (subcommittee)	Mar 25, 2014
Veterans' Affairs Committee	Senate	Referred To	Sep 17, 2014

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Armed Forces and National Security

Related Bills

No related bills are listed.

VA Construction Assistance Act of 2014 - (Sec. 2) Expresses the sense of Congress that: (1) the management of the major medical center construction projects of the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) has been an abysmal failure; and (2) the Secretary of Veterans Affairs should fully implement all recommendations made by the Comptroller General in an April 2013 report to improve VA construction procedures.

(Sec. 3) Requires the Secretary, for any construction or alteration project that is a major medical facility project, to: (1) use the services of a medical equipment planner as part of the architectural and engineering firm for the project, (2) develop and use a project management plan to ensure clear and consistent communication among all parties, (3) subject the project to construction peer excellence review, (4) develop a metrics program to enable the monitoring of change-order processing time and goals for the change-order process consistent with the best practices of other federal agencies, and (5) use design-build processes to minimize multiple change orders.

(Sec. 4) Directs the Secretary to procure the services of the Army Corps of Engineers with respect to appointing not less than one special project manager who has experience in managing construction projects that exceed \$60 million to oversee such covered projects until completion. Requires a special project manager to submit to specified congressional committees detailed plans of a covered project and progress reports, which shall include an analysis of all changes ordered by the VA and recommendations for improving the operation of any construction-related activity to reduce costs or complete the project in a more timely manner.

Defines "covered projects" to mean each construction project that is a major medical facility project that: (1) was the subject of a report by the Comptroller General (GAO) titled "Additional Actions Needed to Decrease Delays and Lower Costs of Major Medical-Facility Projects," published in April 2013; and (2) has not been activated to accept patients as of this Act's enactment.

(Sec. 5) Prohibits additional funds from being authorized to be appropriated to carry out this Act.

Actions Timeline

- **Sep 17, 2014:** Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.
- **Sep 16, 2014:** Mr. Lamborn moved to suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended.
- **Sep 16, 2014:** Considered under suspension of the rules. (consideration: CR H7581-7585)
- **Sep 16, 2014:** DEBATE - The House proceeded with forty minutes of debate on H.R. 3593.
- **Sep 16, 2014:** Passed/agreed to in House: On motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended Agreed to by voice vote.(text: CR H7581-7582)
- **Sep 16, 2014:** On motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended Agreed to by voice vote. (text: CR H7581-7582)
- **Sep 16, 2014:** Motion to reconsider laid on the table Agreed to without objection.
- **Sep 15, 2014:** Reported by the Committee on Veterans' Affairs. H. Rept. 113-586.
- **Sep 15, 2014:** Placed on the Union Calendar, Calendar No. 433.
- **Sep 10, 2014:** Committee Consideration and Mark-up Session Held.
- **Sep 10, 2014:** Ordered to be Reported by Voice Vote.
- **Mar 25, 2014:** Subcommittee Hearings Held.
- **Mar 7, 2014:** Subcommittee on Health Discharged.
- **Mar 7, 2014:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations.
- **Dec 11, 2013:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Health.
- **Nov 21, 2013:** Introduced in House
- **Nov 21, 2013:** Referred to the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs.