

HR 4971

Ask Veterans Act

Congress: 113 (2013–2015, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Armed Forces and National Security

Introduced: Jun 25, 2014

Current Status: Placed on the Union Calendar, Calendar No. 484.

Latest Action: Placed on the Union Calendar, Calendar No. 484. (Dec 3, 2014)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/113th-congress/house-bill/4971>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. O'Rourke, Beto [D-TX-16]

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

Cosponsors (32 total)

| Cosponsor | Party / State | Role | Date Joined |
|--|---------------|------|--------------|
| Rep. Flores, Bill [R-TX-17] | R · TX | | Jun 25, 2014 |
| Rep. Gabbard, Tulsi [D-HI-2] | D · HI | | Jun 25, 2014 |
| Rep. Hahn, Janice [D-CA-44] | D · CA | | Jun 25, 2014 |
| Rep. Hanabusa, Colleen W. [D-HI-1] | D · HI | | Jun 25, 2014 |
| Rep. Horsford, Steven [D-NV-4] | D · NV | | Jun 25, 2014 |
| Rep. Israel, Steve [D-NY-3] | D · NY | | Jun 25, 2014 |
| Rep. Jolly, David [R-FL-13] | R · FL | | Jun 25, 2014 |
| Rep. Michaud, Michael H. [D-ME-2] | D · ME | | Jun 25, 2014 |
| Rep. Pallone, Frank, Jr. [D-NJ-6] | D · NJ | | Jun 25, 2014 |
| Rep. Swalwell, Eric [D-CA-15] | D · CA | | Jun 25, 2014 |
| Rep. Thompson, Mike [D-CA-5] | D · CA | | Jun 25, 2014 |
| Rep. Barber, Ron [D-AZ-2] | D · AZ | | Jul 8, 2014 |
| Rep. Brownley, Julia [D-CA-26] | D · CA | | Jul 8, 2014 |
| Rep. Garcia, Joe [D-FL-26] | D · FL | | Jul 8, 2014 |
| Rep. Green, Al [D-TX-9] | D · TX | | Jul 8, 2014 |
| Rep. Green, Gene [D-TX-29] | D · TX | | Jul 8, 2014 |
| Rep. Hurt, Robert [R-VA-5] | R · VA | | Jul 8, 2014 |
| Rep. Kirkpatrick, Ann [D-AZ-1] | D · AZ | | Jul 8, 2014 |
| Rep. Negrete McLeod, Gloria [D-CA-35] | D · CA | | Jul 8, 2014 |
| Rep. Scott, Robert C. "Bobby" [D-VA-3] | D · VA | | Jul 8, 2014 |
| Rep. Titus, Dina [D-NV-1] | D · NV | | Jul 8, 2014 |
| Rep. Cook, Paul [R-CA-8] | R · CA | | Jul 9, 2014 |
| Rep. Ruiz, Raul [D-CA-36] | D · CA | | Jul 9, 2014 |
| Rep. Yoho, Ted S. [R-FL-3] | R · FL | | Jul 9, 2014 |
| Rep. Walorski, Jackie [R-IN-2] | R · IN | | Jul 10, 2014 |
| Rep. Walz, Timothy J. [D-MN-1] | D · MN | | Jul 10, 2014 |
| Rep. Pearce, Stevan [R-NM-2] | R · NM | | Jul 14, 2014 |
| Rep. Lewis, John [D-GA-5] | D · GA | | Jul 16, 2014 |
| Rep. Jones, Walter B., Jr. [R-NC-3] | R · NC | | Jul 22, 2014 |
| Rep. Sinema, Kyrsten [D-AZ-9] | D · AZ | | Jul 29, 2014 |
| Rep. Huffman, Jared [D-CA-2] | D · CA | | Aug 1, 2014 |
| Rep. Kuster, Ann M. [D-NH-2] | D · NH | | Sep 9, 2014 |

Committee Activity

| Committee | Chamber | Activity | Date |
|-----------------------------|---------|-----------------|--------------|
| Veterans' Affairs Committee | House | Discharged from | Jul 23, 2014 |
| Veterans' Affairs Committee | House | Referred to | Jul 23, 2014 |

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Armed Forces and National Security

Related Bills

No related bills are listed.

Summary (as of Jun 25, 2014)

Ask Veterans Act - Directs the Secretary of Veterans Affairs (VA) to contract with an experienced non-government entity to conduct an annual survey, over a five-year period, of a statistically significant sample of veterans who reside in the geographic area served by each VA medical facility to determine the experiences of such veterans in obtaining hospital care and medical services at such facility.

Requires those surveys to include questions relating to:

- the veteran's ability to obtain hospital care and medical services at the facility in a timely manner,
- the time that expires between the date the veteran requests an appointment and the date on which the appointment is scheduled,
- the frequency with which scheduled appointments are cancelled, and
- the quality of hospital care or medical services the veteran receives.

Requires the non-government entity to consult with veterans service organizations in designing and conducting the surveys.

Prohibits the non-government entity from conducting a survey before the Comptroller General (GAO) certifies the survey as scientifically valid and the proposed sample size of veterans as statistically significant.

Directs the Secretary to make the results of the surveys publicly available on the VA's Internet website.

Actions Timeline

- **Dec 3, 2014:** Reported (Amended) by the Committee on Veterans' Affairs. H. Rept. 113-645.
- **Dec 3, 2014:** Placed on the Union Calendar, Calendar No. 484.
- **Sep 10, 2014:** Committee Consideration and Mark-up Session Held.
- **Sep 10, 2014:** Ordered to be Reported in the Nature of a Substitute (Amended) by Voice Vote.
- **Jul 23, 2014:** Subcommittee on Economic Opportunity Discharged.
- **Jul 23, 2014:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Health.
- **Jul 18, 2014:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Economic Opportunity.
- **Jun 25, 2014:** Introduced in House
- **Jun 25, 2014:** Sponsor introductory remarks on measure. (CR H5735)
- **Jun 25, 2014:** Referred to the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

LegiList

CONGRESS, MADE CLEAR.

Search Every Federal Bill, Law, and Vote

LegiList is the fastest way to research Congress. Track any bill from introduction to enactment, see how every legislator voted, follow committee activity, and read the full text of every bill — all in one place, always up to date.

legilist.com

Free Course: Learn How Congress Actually Works

LegiList Learn is a free, self-paced course that walks through the entire legislative process — from drafting a bill to a presidential signature. Seven modules, plain language, no politics. Earn a certificate when you finish.

legilist.com/learn

Developer API: Build Apps on Legislative Data

The LegiList API gives developers direct access to bills, votes, legislators, committees, and more. Start free with 1,000 requests per day — no credit card required. Upgrade to Pro when you need to scale.

legilist.com/api

Public data belongs to the public. — legilist.com