

## HR 5193

Veterans' Credit Protection Act

**Congress:** 113 (2013–2015, Ended)

**Chamber:** House

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

**Introduced:** Jul 24, 2014

**Current Status:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Health.

**Latest Action:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Health. (Aug 15, 2014)

**Official Text:** <https://www.congress.gov/bill/113th-congress/house-bill/5193>

### Sponsor

**Name:** Rep. Boustany, Charles W., Jr. [R-LA-3]

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

### Cosponsors (5 total)

| Cosponsor                          | Party / State | Role | Date Joined  |
|------------------------------------|---------------|------|--------------|
| Rep. Cassidy, Bill [R-LA-6]        | R · LA        |      | Jul 24, 2014 |
| Rep. McAllister, Vance M. [R-LA-5] | R · LA        |      | Jul 24, 2014 |
| Rep. Richmond, Cedric L. [D-LA-2]  | D · LA        |      | Jul 24, 2014 |
| Rep. Scalise, Steve [R-LA-1]       | R · LA        |      | Jul 24, 2014 |
| Rep. Coffman, Mike [R-CO-6]        | R · CO        |      | Sep 9, 2014  |

### Committee Activity

| Committee                   | Chamber | Activity    | Date         |
|-----------------------------|---------|-------------|--------------|
| Veterans' Affairs Committee | House   | Referred to | Aug 15, 2014 |

### Subjects & Policy Tags

#### Policy Area:

Armed Forces and National Security

### Related Bills

| Bill       | Relationship | Last Action                                                                         |
|------------|--------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 113 S 2654 | Related bill | <b>Jul 24, 2014:</b> Read twice and referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs. |

Veterans' Credit Protection Act - Directs the Secretary of Veterans Affairs (VA) to: (1) conduct outreach to inform veterans of how to resolve credit issues caused by a delayed payment (i.e., a proper invoice that is not paid by the Secretary until after the required payment date); and (2) establish a toll-free telephone number for veterans to report such issues to the Veterans Integrated Service Networks.

Requires the Secretary to report annually on the effectiveness of each Network in providing timely payment of proper invoices during both the preceding five-year period and the preceding one-year period. Requires such report to include:

- the number of veterans who contacted the Secretary regarding delayed payments that could negatively affect their credit;
- the total amount of interest penalties paid by the Secretary by reason of delayed payments;
- the number of proper invoices submitted, the amount owed for and the payment status of such invoices, and the periods that elapsed before such invoices were paid;
- any comments regarding delayed payments made by medical providers;
- identification of the Networks with the least and most delayed payments; and
- a description of the best practices to provide timely payment of a proper invoice, including a plan for under-performing Networks to improve.

Directs the Comptroller General (GAO) to conduct a study that compares the effectiveness of Networks in providing timely payment of proper invoices.

### **Actions Timeline**

---

- **Aug 15, 2014:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Health.
- **Jul 24, 2014:** Introduced in House
- **Jul 24, 2014:** Referred to the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs.