

S 290

Increasing the Department of Veterans Affairs Accountability to Veterans Act of 2016

Congress: 114 (2015–2017, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Armed Forces and National Security

Introduced: Jan 28, 2015

Current Status: Held at the desk.

Latest Action: Held at the desk. (Dec 12, 2016)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/114th-congress/senate-bill/290>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Moran, Jerry [R-KS]

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

Cosponsors (8 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Ayotte, Kelly [R-NH]	R · NH		Jan 28, 2015
Sen. McCain, John [R-AZ]	R · AZ		Jan 28, 2015
Sen. Rubio, Marco [R-FL]	R · FL		Jan 28, 2015
Sen. Ernst, Joni [R-IA]	R · IA		Feb 10, 2015
Sen. Blumenthal, Richard [D-CT]	D · CT		Dec 3, 2015
Sen. Kirk, Mark Steven [R-IL]	R · IL		Jan 11, 2016
Sen. Bennet, Michael F. [D-CO]	D · CO		Apr 19, 2016
Sen. Daines, Steve [R-MT]	R · MT		Dec 1, 2016

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Veterans' Affairs Committee	Senate	Reported By	Dec 9, 2016

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Armed Forces and National Security

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
114 S 3330	Related bill	Sep 14, 2016: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.
114 HR 473	Related bill	Apr 16, 2015: Forwarded by Subcommittee to Full Committee in the Nature of a Substitute (Amended) by Voice Vote .

Increasing the Department of Veterans Affairs Accountability to Veterans Act of 2016

This bill requires the reduction of the federal annuities of individuals removed from the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) Senior Executive Service (SES) if they are convicted of a felony that influenced their performance while employed in such position.

The VA may order the reduction of the federal annuities of individuals who were convicted of such a felony and were subject to removal or transfer from the SES but who left the VA before final action was taken. Such annuities shall be reduced by excluding the covered service performed after the activity that subjects such an individual to transfer or removal occurs.

An individual whose annuity is reduced may appeal the reduction to the Office of Personnel Management.

The VA may not place an SES employee on administrative leave for more than a total of 14 days during any 365-day period. The VA may waive such prohibition if it provides Congress with a detailed explanation of the reasons the employee was placed on administrative leave and the reasons for extending such leave.

The VA shall conduct an annual performance plan for each political appointee that is similar to the plan conducted for career appointee SES employees.

A supervisor of an employee on probation shall determine, during the 30-day period ending on the date on which the probationary period ends, whether the employee: (1) has demonstrated successful performance, and (2) should continue past the probationary period.

Each annual performance plan for a supervisor of an employee serving a probationary period shall hold the supervisor accountable for: (1) providing regular feedback to the employee before making a determination regarding such employee's probationary status, and (2) making a timely probationary status determination.

The evaluation of VA managers shall include actions taken to address employee performance.

Before terminating VA employment, an official who has participated personally and substantially in a VA acquisition that exceeds \$1 million or who held a key acquisitions position at the VA shall obtain a written opinion from a VA ethics counselor regarding any restrictions on activities that the official may undertake on behalf of a contractor during the two-year period after the official terminates VA employment. A contractor may not knowingly provide compensation to such an individual during such two-year period unless the contractor determines that the individual has obtained or requested such written opinion.

Actions Timeline

- **Dec 12, 2016:** Message on Senate action sent to the House.
- **Dec 12, 2016:** Received in the House.
- **Dec 12, 2016:** Held at the desk.
- **Dec 10, 2016:** Measure laid before Senate by unanimous consent. (consideration: CR S7109)
- **Dec 10, 2016:** Passed/agreed to in Senate: Passed Senate with an amendment by Unanimous Consent.
- **Dec 10, 2016:** Passed Senate with an amendment by Unanimous Consent.
- **Dec 9, 2016:** Committee on Veterans' Affairs. Reported by Senator Isakson with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. Without written report.
- **Dec 9, 2016:** Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 725.
- **Dec 9, 2015:** Committee on Veterans' Affairs. Ordered to be reported with an amendment favorably.
- **Sep 16, 2015:** Committee on Veterans' Affairs. Hearings held. Hearings printed: S.Hrg. 114-212.
- **Jan 28, 2015:** Introduced in Senate
- **Jan 28, 2015:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.