

S 1218

Empowering FED Vets Act

Congress: 115 (2017–2019, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Armed Forces and National Security

Introduced: May 24, 2017

Current Status: Committee on Veterans' Affairs. Hearings held. Hearings printed: S.Hrg. 115-215.

Latest Action: Committee on Veterans' Affairs. Hearings held. Hearings printed: S.Hrg. 115-215. (Jun 15, 2017)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/senate-bill/1218>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Heitkamp, Heidi [D-ND]

Party: Democratic • **State:** ND • **Chamber:** Senate

Cosponsors (6 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Harris, Kamala D. [D-CA]	D · CA		May 24, 2017
Sen. Sullivan, Dan [R-AK]	R · AK		May 24, 2017
Sen. Klobuchar, Amy [D-MN]	D · MN		Jul 31, 2017
Sen. Gillibrand, Kirsten E. [D-NY]	D · NY		Nov 7, 2017
Sen. Crapo, Mike [R-ID]	R · ID		Jan 10, 2018
Sen. Risch, James E. [R-ID]	R · ID		Jan 19, 2018

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Veterans' Affairs Committee	Senate	Hearings By (full committee)	Jun 15, 2017

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Armed Forces and National Security

Related Bills

No related bills are listed.

Empowering Federal Employment for Veterans Act of 2017 or the Empowering FED Vets Act

This bill requires executive agencies to establish or maintain a Veterans Employment Program Office and designate a veterans employment official to: (1) enhance employment opportunities for veterans within the agency, (2) provide employment counseling and training programs to applicants to help match the skills and career aspirations of veterans to agency needs, (3) participate in agency career development programs to leverage those programs in matching veterans' career aspirations with high-growth occupations, and (4) provide mandatory annual training to human resources employees and hiring managers concerning veterans' employment.

The Office of Personnel Management (OPM) shall:

- facilitate coordination among such officials;
- establish a Veterans Program Office to provide government-wide leadership in recruitment and employment of veterans in the executive branch;
- regularly convene such officials for working-level meetings to share information on best practices, prospective applicants, and strategies for matching veterans with appropriate employment;
- develop mandatory annual training on veterans' employment for agency human resources employees and hiring managers;
- develop a skills-based, cross-governmental career development program for agencies;
- promote the government as an employer of choice to transitioning members of the Armed Forces and veterans;
- market the talent, experience, and dedication of such members and veterans to agencies; and
- disseminate federal employment information to veterans and hiring officials.

The bill establishes the Interagency Council on Veterans Employment, which shall:

- advise and assist the President and the OPM on matters relating to maintaining a coordinated government-wide effort to increase the number of veterans employed by the government in positions that match their skills and career aspirations by enhancing recruiting, hiring, retention, training and skills development, and job satisfaction;
- serve as a national forum for promoting employment opportunities for veterans in the executive branch; and
- establish performance measures to assess effectiveness.

The Department of Defense (DOD) shall make appropriate modifications to its SkillBridge initiative to enable federal agencies to participate as employers and trainers.

Actions Timeline

- **Jun 15, 2017:** Committee on Veterans' Affairs. Hearings held. Hearings printed: S.Hrg. 115-215.
- **May 24, 2017:** Introduced in Senate
- **May 24, 2017:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.