S 3224

VA Research Approval Efficiency Act of 2020

Congress: 116 (2019–2021, Ended)
Chamber: Senate
Policy Area: Armed Forces and National Security
Introduced: Jan 21, 2020
Current Status: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.
Latest Action: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs. (Jan 21, 2020)
Official Text: https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/senate-bill/3224

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Cassidy, Bill [R-LA]
Party: Republican • **State:** LA • **Chamber:** Senate

Cosponsors (1 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Tester, Jon [D-MT]	D · MT		Jan 21, 2020

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Veterans' Affairs Committee	Senate	Referred To	Jan 21, 2020

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Armed Forces and National Security

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
116 S 785	Related bill	**Oct 17, 2020:** Became Public Law No: 116-171.
116 HR 8172	Related bill	**Sep 4, 2020:** Referred to the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

Summary (as of Jan 21, 2020)

VA Research Approval Efficiency Act of 2020

This bill addresses clinical research procedures within the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA).

Specifically, the bill requires the VA to complete policy revisions within the internal directive titled *Requirements for the Protection of Human Subjects in Research* to allow sponsored clinical research of the VA to use accredited commercial institutional review boards to review VA research proposal protocols.

The VA must identify accredited commercial institutional review boards for use in connection with sponsored clinical research of the VA and establish a process to modify existing approvals if a board loses its accreditation during an ongoing clinical trial.

The bill also requires the VA to establish an Office of Research Reviews within the VA's Office of Information and Technology. The office shall (1) perform centralized security reviews and complete security processes for approved research sponsored outside the VA, (2) develop and maintain a list of commercially available software preferred for use in sponsored clinical trials of the VA, (3) ensure such software list is maintained as part of the official approved software products list, and (4) develop benchmarks for time lines for security reviews.

Actions Timeline

- **Jan 21, 2020:** Introduced in Senate
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