

S 4657

A bill to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to designate one week each year as "Buddy Check Week" for the purpose of outreach and education concerning peer wellness checks for veterans, and for other purposes.

Congress: 116 (2019–2021, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Armed Forces and National Security

Introduced: Sep 23, 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. (Sep 23, 2020)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/senate-bill/4657>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Ernst, Joni [R-IA]

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

Cosponsors (12 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Hassan, Margaret Wood [D-NH]	D · NH		Sep 23, 2020
Sen. Jones, Doug [D-AL]	D · AL		Sep 23, 2020
Sen. Bennet, Michael F. [D-CO]	D · CO		Oct 20, 2020
Sen. Cantwell, Maria [D-WA]	D · WA		Oct 21, 2020
Sen. Coons, Christopher A. [D-DE]	D · DE		Oct 21, 2020
Sen. Gillibrand, Kirsten E. [D-NY]	D · NY		Oct 21, 2020
Sen. Capito, Shelley Moore [R-WV]	R · WV		Oct 22, 2020
Sen. Cotton, Tom [R-AR]	R · AR		Oct 22, 2020
Sen. Blackburn, Marsha [R-TN]	R · TN		Nov 12, 2020
Sen. Barrasso, John [R-WY]	R · WY		Nov 17, 2020
Sen. Rosen, Jacky [D-NV]	D · NV		Dec 3, 2020
Sen. Young, Todd [R-IN]	R · IN		Dec 3, 2020

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Veterans' Affairs Committee	Senate	Referred To	Sep 23, 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 4290	Related bill	Sep 20, 2019: Referred to the Subcommittee on Health.
116 HR 2898	Related bill	Jun 11, 2019: Referred to the Subcommittee on Health.

Summary (as of Sep 23, 2020)

This bill requires the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) to designate one week each year as Buddy Check Week for the purposes of organizing outreach events and educating veterans on how to conduct peer wellness checks. The VA shall ensure that the Veterans Crisis Line has a plan for handling the potential increase in calls that may occur during such week.

Actions Timeline

- Sep 23, 2020: Introduced in Senate
- Sep 23, 2020: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.