

## HR 5028

### Protecting Benefits for Disabled Veterans Act of 2019

**Congress:** 116 (2019–2021, Ended)

**Chamber:** House

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

**Introduced:** Nov 8, 2019

**Current Status:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Disability Assistance and Memorial Affairs.

**Latest Action:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Disability Assistance and Memorial Affairs. (Dec 2, 2019)

**Official Text:** <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-bill/5028>

## Sponsor

**Name:** Rep. Waters, Maxine [D-CA-43]

**Party:** Democratic • **State:** CA • **Chamber:** House

## Cosponsors (19 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Del. Norton, Eleanor Holmes [D-DC-At Large]	D · DC		Nov 8, 2019
Rep. Beatty, Joyce [D-OH-3]	D · OH		Nov 8, 2019
Rep. Kilmer, Derek [D-WA-6]	D · WA		Nov 8, 2019
Rep. Thompson, Bennie G. [D-MS-2]	D · MS		Nov 8, 2019
Rep. Tlaib, Rashida [D-MI-13]	D · MI		Nov 8, 2019
Rep. Cuellar, Henry [D-TX-28]	D · TX		Nov 19, 2019
Rep. Maloney, Sean Patrick [D-NY-18]	D · NY		Nov 19, 2019
Rep. Soto, Darren [D-FL-9]	D · FL		Nov 19, 2019
Rep. Moore, Gwen [D-WI-4]	D · WI		Dec 6, 2019
Rep. Pappas, Chris [D-NH-1]	D · NH		Dec 11, 2019
Rep. Napolitano, Grace F. [D-CA-32]	D · CA		Dec 17, 2019
Rep. Aguilar, Pete [D-CA-31]	D · CA		Dec 19, 2019
Rep. Morelle, Joseph D. [D-NY-25]	D · NY		Jan 15, 2020
Rep. Blunt Rochester, Lisa [D-DE-At Large]	D · DE		Feb 6, 2020
Rep. DeFazio, Peter A. [D-OR-4]	D · OR		Feb 26, 2020
Rep. DeLauro, Rosa L. [D-CT-3]	D · CT		Mar 13, 2020
Rep. Titus, Dina [D-NV-1]	D · NV		Jun 25, 2020
Rep. Escobar, Veronica [D-TX-16]	D · TX		Sep 11, 2020
Rep. Brownley, Julia [D-CA-26]	D · CA		Nov 19, 2020

## Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Veterans' Affairs Committee	House	Referred to	Dec 2, 2019

## Subjects & Policy Tags

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### Policy Area:

Armed Forces and National Security

### Related Bills

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No related bills are listed.

### Summary (as of Nov 8, 2019)

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#### Protecting Benefits for Disabled Veterans Act of 2019

This bill authorizes the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) to assign, for purposes of the disability compensation program, a disability rating of total to a veteran who meets certain parameters and is unable to secure or maintain substantially gainful employment due to a service-connected disability.

Specifically, the VA may make such a disability determination if a veteran has a service-connected disability rated at least 60%, or has two or more service-connected disabilities with one being at least 40% and a combined total of at least 70%. The VA may also make a determination on the disability rating in circumstances where a veteran meeting the specified parameters maintains marginal employment (income is less than the poverty threshold), or if the veteran maintains substantially gainful employment (exceeds the poverty threshold) and the VA determines that the rating is appropriate.

The bill prescribes what disabilities may be considered as one disability (e.g., disabilities incurred or aggravated as a prisoner of war).

The VA may not consider the age of a veteran or eligibility for retirement benefits when making any determination related to disability rating.

### Actions Timeline

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- **Dec 2, 2019:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Disability Assistance and Memorial Affairs.
- **Nov 8, 2019:** Introduced in House
- **Nov 8, 2019:** Referred to the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs.