

S 1664

Department of Veterans Affairs Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder Processing Claims Improvement Act of 2021

Congress: 117 (2021–2023, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Armed Forces and National Security

Introduced: May 18, 2021

Current Status: Committee on Veterans' Affairs. Ordered to be reported without amendment favorably.

Latest Action: Committee on Veterans' Affairs. Ordered to be reported without amendment favorably. (Dec 15, 2021)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/senate-bill/1664>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Klobuchar, Amy [D-MN]

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

Cosponsors (4 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Rounds, Mike [R-SD]	R · SD		May 18, 2021
Sen. Coons, Christopher A. [D-DE]	D · DE		Jul 21, 2021
Sen. Collins, Susan M. [R-ME]	R · ME		Jul 29, 2021
Sen. Feinstein, Dianne [D-CA]	D · CA		Jul 30, 2021

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Veterans' Affairs Committee	Senate	Markup By	Dec 15, 2021

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Armed Forces and National Security

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
117 HR 6165	Identical bill	Mar 29, 2022: Subcommittee Hearings Held.

Department of Veterans Affairs Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder Processing Claims Improvement Act of 2021

This bill requires the Veterans Benefits Administration (VBA) within the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) to update an ongoing national training program for claims processors who review compensation claims for service-connected post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD). Such claims processors will be required to participate in the training at least once a year starting in their second year of being a VA claims processor.

The training program must be standardized at regional offices of the VBA and include instruction on stressor development and verification.

The VBA must establish a formal process to annually analyze training needs based on identified processing error trends. Additionally, the VBA must establish a formal process to conduct annual studies to help guide the national training program for claims processors.

Finally, the VBA must evaluate the guidance relating to PTSD to determine if updates are warranted to provide claims processors with better resources regarding best practices for claims processing, including specific guidance regarding development of claims involving compensation for service-connected PTSD.

Actions Timeline

- **Dec 15, 2021:** Committee on Veterans' Affairs. Ordered to be reported without amendment favorably.
- **Nov 17, 2021:** Committee on Veterans' Affairs. Hearings held.
- **May 18, 2021:** Introduced in Senate
- **May 18, 2021:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.