

HR 4772

Mark O'Brien VA Clothing Allowance Improvement Act

Congress: 117 (2021–2023, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Armed Forces and National Security

Introduced: Jul 28, 2021

Current Status: Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

Latest Action: Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs. (Dec 5, 2022)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/4772>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Levin, Mike [D-CA-49]

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

Cosponsors (6 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Moore, Barry [R-AL-2]	R · AL		Jul 28, 2021
Rep. Kildee, Daniel T. [D-MI-5]	D · MI		Feb 8, 2022
Rep. Bilirakis, Gus M. [R-FL-12]	R · FL		Mar 7, 2022
Rep. Kilmer, Derek [D-WA-6]	D · WA		Jun 13, 2022
Rep. Levin, Andy [D-MI-9]	D · MI		Jun 13, 2022
Rep. Luria, Elaine G. [D-VA-2]	D · VA		Oct 14, 2022

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Veterans' Affairs Committee	House	Discharged from	Nov 16, 2022
Veterans' Affairs Committee	Senate	Referred To	Dec 5, 2022

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Armed Forces and National Security

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
117 HRES 1499	Related bill	Nov 30, 2022: Motion to reconsider laid on the table Agreed to without objection.
117 S 2513	Related bill	Dec 15, 2021: Committee on Veterans' Affairs. Ordered to be reported without amendment favorably.

Mark O'Brien VA Clothing Allowance Improvement Act

This bill modifies the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) clothing allowance policy for veterans who, due to a service-connected disability, wear a prosthetic, use an orthopedic appliance (e.g., a wheelchair), or use a prescription skin medication that the VA determines causes irreparable damage to clothing.

The bill requires the VA to continue the clothing allowance for such a veteran on an annual basis until the veteran elects to no longer receive the allowance, or the VA determines the veteran is no longer eligible for the allowance, whichever occurs first.

The bill sets forth a procedure by which the VA must conduct reviews of clothing allowance claims to determine the continued eligibility of veterans. Specifically, the VA must conduct a review (1) five years after the date on which a veteran initially receives a clothing allowance and periodically thereafter, and (2) whenever the VA receives notice that the veteran no longer meets eligibility requirements. If a veteran is eligible for a clothing allowance based on a circumstance that is not subject to change, the VA does not need to review whether the veteran has continued eligibility.

If the VA determines, as the result of a review of a claim, that a veteran no longer meets the eligibility requirements for a clothing allowance, the VA must provide notice of the determination and discontinue the clothing allowance. The notice must include a description of applicable actions that may be taken following the determination (e.g., filing a notice of disagreement).

The bill also extends certain loan fee rates through January 15, 2031, under the VA's home loan program.

Actions Timeline

- **Dec 5, 2022:** Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.
- **Dec 1, 2022:** Pursuant to the provisions of H. Res. 1499, proceedings on H.R. 4772 are considered vacated.
- **Dec 1, 2022:** Passed/agreed to in House: Pursuant to section 5 of H. Res. 1499, and the motion offered by Mr. Hoyer, the following bills passed under suspension of the rules: H.R. 4601, as amended; H.R. 4772, as amended; H.R. 4899; H.R. 5943, as amended; H.R. 7158, as amended; H.R. 8203; H.R. 9308; and S. 3825; and the following resolutions were agreed to under suspension of the rules: H. Res. 744, as amended; and H. Res. 922, as amended.(consideration: CR H8696-8700; text: CR H8697)
- **Dec 1, 2022:** Pursuant to section 5 of H. Res. 1499, and the motion offered by Mr. Hoyer, the following bills passed under suspension of the rules: H.R. 4601, as amended; H.R. 4772, as amended; H.R. 4899; H.R. 5943, as amended; H.R. 7158, as amended; H.R. 8203; H.R. 9308; and S. 3825; and the following resolutions were agreed to under suspension of the rules: H. Res. 744, as amended; and H. Res. 922, as amended. (consideration: CR H8696-8700; text: CR H8697)
- **Nov 29, 2022:** Mr. Takano moved to suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended.
- **Nov 29, 2022:** Considered under suspension of the rules. (consideration: CR H8604-8605; text: CR H8604-8605)
- **Nov 29, 2022:** DEBATE - The House proceeded with forty minutes of debate on H.R. 4772.
- **Nov 29, 2022:** At the conclusion of debate, the Yeas and Nays were demanded and ordered. Pursuant to the provisions of clause 8, rule XX, the Chair announced that further proceedings on the motion would be postponed.
- **Nov 16, 2022:** Subcommittee on Disability Assistance and Memorial Affairs Discharged.
- **Nov 16, 2022:** Committee Consideration and Mark-up Session Held.
- **Nov 16, 2022:** Ordered to be Reported by Voice Vote.
- **Oct 20, 2021:** Subcommittee Hearings Held.
- **Sep 9, 2021:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Disability Assistance and Memorial Affairs.
- **Jul 28, 2021:** Introduced in House
- **Jul 28, 2021:** Referred to the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs