

## HR 5516

### VITAL Assessment Act

**Congress:** 117 (2021–2023, Ended)

**Chamber:** House

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

**Introduced:** Oct 8, 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. (Nov 17, 2021)

**Official Text:** <https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/5516>

### Sponsor

**Name:** Rep. Ellzey, Jake [R-TX-6]

**Party:** Republican • **State:** TX • **Chamber:** House

### Cosponsors (3 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Bost, Mike [R-IL-12]	R · IL		Oct 8, 2021
Rep. Delgado, Antonio [D-NY-19]	D · NY		Nov 15, 2021
Rep. Trone, David J. [D-MD-6]	D · MD		Nov 15, 2021

### Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Veterans' Affairs Committee	House	Discharged from	Nov 4, 2021
Veterans' Affairs Committee	Senate	Referred To	Nov 17, 2021

### Subjects & Policy Tags

#### Policy Area:

Armed Forces and National Security

### Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
117 HR 6411	Related bill	Jul 11, 2022: Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.
117 S 3368	Related bill	Dec 9, 2021: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs. (text: CR S9096-9097)

## **VITAL Assessment Act**

This bill implements changes related to the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) Veterans Integration to Academic Leadership (VITAL) program, which focuses on enhancing student veterans' academic success and retention by assisting with things like mental and physical health.

The VA must report on the program and establish best practices, goals, and measures for the program that are uniform among the VA's medical centers.

The bill also requires the VA to conduct outreach among the Armed Forces, veterans service organizations, institutions of higher learning, and noncollege degree programs regarding the VITAL program.

Additionally, the VA must assess the feasibility and advisability of including the suicide rate for student veterans in the National Veteran Suicide Prevention Annual Report.

## **Actions Timeline**

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- **Nov 17, 2021:** Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.
- **Nov 16, 2021:** Mr. Takano moved to suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended.
- **Nov 16, 2021:** Considered under suspension of the rules. (consideration: CR H6279-6280)
- **Nov 16, 2021:** DEBATE - The House proceeded with forty minutes of debate on H.R. 5516.
- **Nov 16, 2021:** Passed/agreed to in House: On motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended Agreed to by voice vote.(text: CR H6279)
- **Nov 16, 2021:** On motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended Agreed to by voice vote. (text: CR H6279)
- **Nov 16, 2021:** Motion to reconsider laid on the table Agreed to without objection.
- **Nov 4, 2021:** Subcommittee on Health Discharged.
- **Nov 4, 2021:** Committee Consideration and Mark-up Session Held.
- **Nov 4, 2021:** Ordered to be Reported (Amended) by Voice Vote.
- **Oct 14, 2021:** Subcommittee Hearings Held.
- **Oct 13, 2021:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Health.
- **Oct 8, 2021:** Introduced in House
- **Oct 8, 2021:** Referred to the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs.