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[H.R. 3234, VA Medical Center Recovery Act, as amended](#)

FLOOR SITUATION

On Tuesday, February 9, 2016, the House will consider [H.R. 3234](#), *the VA Medical Center Recovery Act*, as amended. The bill was introduced on July 28, 2015, by Rep. Martha Roby (R-AL) and was referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

SUMMARY

H.R. 1575 would require the Secretary of the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) to determine on a semiannual basis whether VA medical centers are satisfactory or underperforming based on key health metrics the VA must make publicly available. No later than 30 days after such designations are made, the Secretary must send a rapid deployment team to underperforming medical centers to ensure they achieve satisfactory performance as quickly as possible.

Additionally, this bill requires the VA to enter into partnerships with nursing schools to provide undergraduate nursing students with training on veteran-related issues such as post-traumatic stress disorder, suicide, and homelessness.

BACKGROUND

The VA estimates that the veteran population was 21.9 million as of September 30, 2014. The VA operates 1,203 VA outpatient sites, 300 Vet Centers, over 150 hospitals and medical centers, 131 national cemeteries, and 56 regional offices. There are 9.1 million veterans enrolled in the VA health care system.¹

COST

A Congressional Budget Office (CBO) estimate is currently unavailable. However, according to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs, CBO has preliminarily estimated that enacting the bill would have no impact on revenue.

STAFF CONTACT

¹ See VA document—[“Department of Veterans Affairs Statistics at a Glance,”](#) June 30, 2015

For questions or further information please contact [Molly Newell](#) with the House Republican Policy Committee by email or at 2-1374.