

116TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2372

To direct the Comptroller General of the United States to conduct an assessment of all memoranda of understanding and memoranda of agreement between Under Secretary of Health and non-Department of Veterans Affairs entities relating to suicide prevention and mental health services.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 25, 2019

Ms. UNDERWOOD introduced the following bill; which was referred to the
Committee on Veterans' Affairs

A BILL

To direct the Comptroller General of the United States to conduct an assessment of all memoranda of understanding and memoranda of agreement between Under Secretary of Health and non-Department of Veterans Affairs entities relating to suicide prevention and mental health services.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Veterans’ Care Quality
5 Transparency Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. COMPTROLLER GENERAL ASSESSMENT OF MEMO-**
2 **RANDA OF UNDERSTANDING AND MEMO-**
3 **RANDA OF AGREEMENT BETWEEN UNDER**
4 **SECRETARY OF HEALTH AND NON-DEPART-**
5 **MENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS ENTITIES RE-**
6 **LATING TO SUICIDE PREVENTION AND MEN-**
7 **TAL HEALTH SERVICES.**

8 (a) ASSESSMENT.—Not later than 180 days after the
9 date of the enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General
10 of the United States shall conduct an assessment of the
11 effectiveness of all memoranda of understanding and
12 memoranda of agreement entered into by the Under Sec-
13 retary of Veterans Affairs for Health and a non-Depart-
14 ment of Veterans Affairs entity relating to—

15 (1) suicide prevention activities and outreach;
16 and

17 (2) the provision or coordination of mental
18 health services during the five-year period preceding
19 the date of the enactment of this Act.

20 (b) CONTENTS OF ASSESSMENT.—The assessment
21 required by subsection (a) shall include an assessment
22 of—

23 (1) the regional variances of the non-Depart-
24 ment entities with which the Under Secretary has
25 entered into a memorandum of understanding or

1 memorandum of agreement referred to in subsection
2 (a);

3 (2) the size of the catchment area of each such
4 entity;

5 (3) the staffing structures of such entities;

6 (4) any accreditation or licensure any such enti-
7 ty has obtained in relation to the services the entity
8 provides;

9 (5) any variances in the subpopulations of vet-
10 erans served by such entities;

11 (6) any limitations any such entity may face in
12 carrying out its obligations under the memorandum
13 of understanding or memorandum of agreement;

14 (7) the extent to which the Under Secretary
15 provides oversight and tracks outcomes of such enti-
16 ties;

17 (8) any variations in the structure or require-
18 ments of the memoranda of understanding and
19 memoranda of agreement;

20 (9) a breakdown of the percentage of such enti-
21 ties that serve—

22 (A) women veterans;

23 (B) minority veterans;

24 (C) veterans who are over the age of 55;

1 (D) veterans between the ages of 18 and
2 34; and

3 (E) veterans' families; and

4 (10) any measures taken to ensure the secure
5 exchange of data and information between such enti-
6 ties and the Department of Veterans Affairs.

7 (c) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—Not later than 60 days
8 after the completion of the assessment under subsection
9 (a), the Comptroller General shall submit to the Commit-
10 tees on Veterans' Affairs of the Senate and House of Rep-
11 resentatives a report on the results of the assessment.

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