

117TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 5917

To direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to submit to Congress reports on the implementation of operational and policy reforms with respect to construction projects of the Department of Veterans Affairs.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NOVEMBER 9, 2021

Mr. BANKS introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs

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## A BILL

To direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to submit to Congress reports on the implementation of operational and policy reforms with respect to construction projects of the Department of Veterans Affairs.

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 “Department of Vet-  
5 erans Affairs Construction Management Improvement Act  
6 of 2021”.

1 **SEC. 2. REPORTS ON CONSTRUCTION PROCUREMENT.**

2 (a) REPORT ON OPERATIONAL AND POLICY RE-  
3 FORMS.—Not later than 90 days after the date of the en-  
4 actment of this Act, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs  
5 shall submit to the Committees on Veterans Affairs' of  
6 the Senate and House of Representatives a report on the  
7 implementation of operational and policy reforms in con-  
8 struction procurement. Such report shall include each of  
9 the following:

10 (1) A listing and description of each such oper-  
11 ational and policy reform relating to minor construc-  
12 tion, non-recurring maintenance, leasing, major con-  
13 struction, or super construction.

14 (2) With respect to minor construction and  
15 non-recurring maintenance projects—

16 (A) a comparison of procurement lead  
17 times and construction completion times for  
18 each of fiscal years 2016 through 2021; and

19 (B) if the Secretary determines that pro-  
20 curement lead times and construction comple-  
21 tion times were successively reduced from fiscal  
22 year 2016 through fiscal year 2021, a discus-  
23 sion of how such reduction was accomplished.

24 (3) With respect to major and minor leases—

1           (A) a comparison of procurement lead  
2 times and lease activation completion times for  
3 each of fiscal years 2016 through 2021;

4           (B) if the Secretary determines that pro-  
5 curement lead times and lease activation com-  
6 pletion times were successively reduced from  
7 fiscal year 2016 through fiscal year 2021, a dis-  
8 cussion of how such reduction was accom-  
9 plished; and

10          (C) a discussion of which leases utilized  
11 standardized designs, whether and why any de-  
12 signs were customized, and justifications for in-  
13 stances in which standardized designs were not  
14 utilized.

15       (4) With respect to major construction—

16           (A) a comparison of procurement lead  
17 times and construction completion times for  
18 each of fiscal years 2016 through 2021;

19           (B) if the Secretary determines that pro-  
20 curement lead times and construction comple-  
21 tion times were successively reduced from fiscal  
22 year 2016 through fiscal year 2021, a discus-  
23 sion of how such reduction was accomplished;  
24 and

1 (C) a comparison of actual costs to initial  
2 cost estimates for each project completed dur-  
3 ing each of fiscal years 2019 through 2021.

4 (b) REPORT ON COST AND SCHEDULE VARIANCES.—  
5 Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment  
6 of this Act, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, in consulta-  
7 tion with the Commanding General of the Army Corps of  
8 Engineers, shall submit to the Committees on Veterans’  
9 Affairs of the Senate and House of Representatives a re-  
10 port that includes, with respect to each super construction  
11 project included in a report under section 8120 of title  
12 38, United States Code, during any of fiscal years 2017,  
13 2018, 2019, 2020, or 2021—

14 (1) a comparison of the actual cost and sched-  
15 ule variances and the planned cost and schedule for  
16 each such project; and

17 (2) an explanation as to why actual cost and  
18 schedule variances have or have not improved.

19 (c) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

20 (1) The term “procurement lead times” means  
21 the number of days between origination of a require-  
22 ment and award of a contract or lease.

23 (2) The term “construction completion times”  
24 means the number of days between the provision of  
25 notice to proceed and beneficial occupancy.

1           (3) The term “lease activation completion  
2 times” means the number of days between origina-  
3 tion of a requirement for a leased facility and activa-  
4 tion of such facility.

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