

118TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 6557

To direct the Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness to conduct a study on certain grace periods under the Transition Assistance Program of the Department of Defense.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

DECEMBER 1, 2023

Mr. NEGUSE introduced the following bill; which was referred to the
Committee on Armed Services

A BILL

To direct the Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness to conduct a study on certain grace periods under the Transition Assistance Program of the Department of Defense.

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. STUDY AND REPORT ON GRACE PERIODS**
4 **UNDER TRANSITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM**
5 **OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE.**

6 (a) STUDY.—The Under Secretary of Defense for
7 Personnel and Readiness, in coordination with the heads
8 of other Federal agencies the Under Secretary determines

1 appropriate, shall conduct a comprehensive study on re-
2 forms to grace periods under TAP. Such study shall in-
3 clude the following:

4 (1) An assessment of the impact of unit tasking
5 on the ability of a covered member to transition to
6 civilian life.

7 (2) A review, disaggregated by military depart-
8 ment, of current practices regarding unit tasking
9 during TAP.

10 (3) An analysis of each challenge a covered
11 member faces when balancing duty assignments with
12 the requirements to participate in TAP.

13 (4) An assessment of such grace periods that
14 allow for unplanned periods of leave, temporary
15 duty, deployments, or other periods when a covered
16 member is unavailable to participate in TAP.

17 (b) REPORT.—Not later than one year after the date
18 of the enactment of this Act, the Under Secretary shall
19 submit to the Committees on Armed Services of the House
20 of Representatives and the Senate a report that includes
21 the following:

22 (1) The findings and conclusions of the Under
23 Secretary based on the study under subsection (a).

24 (2) The recommendations of the Under Sec-
25 retary whether to reform such grace periods.

1 (3) The recommendation of the Under Sec-
2 retary whether a member of an Armed Force, while
3 a covered member, may receive orders only from the
4 command post or headquarters of the unit to which
5 such member is assigned.

6 (4) A comprehensive plan, including proposed
7 timelines, milestones, and resources the Under Sec-
8 retary determines necessary, to implement such rec-
9 ommendations.

10 (5) Any other information or recommendation
11 the Under Secretary determines—

12 (A) appropriate;

13 (B) would improve TAP; or

14 (C) would facilitate a successful transition
15 to civilian life for a covered member.

16 (c) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

17 (1) The term “covered member” means a mem-
18 ber of the Armed Forces participating in TAP.

19 (2) The term “TAP” means the Transition As-
20 sistance Program of the Department of Defense
21 under sections 1142 and 1144, of title 10, United
22 States Code.

23 (3) The term “unit tasking” means a defined
24 and measurable activity assigned to a unit of an

- 1 Armed Force by the command post or headquarters
- 2 of such unit.

○