

118TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# H. R. 7765

To direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to carry out a pilot program to use weapon screening technology at medical centers of the Department of Veterans Affairs.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 21, 2024

Mr. WILLIAMS of New York 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 carry out a pilot program to use weapon screening technology at medical centers 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 “VA Security Screening  
5 Pilot Program Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. PILOT PROGRAM TO USE WEAPON SCREENING**  
7 **TECHNOLOGY AT MEDICAL CENTERS OF THE**  
8 **DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS.**

9 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—

1           (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than one year  
2 after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Sec-  
3 retary of Veterans Affairs shall carry out a pilot  
4 program to use weapon screening technology at the  
5 primary entrance of each medical center of the De-  
6 partment of Veterans Affairs located in one VISN  
7 selected by the Secretary.

8           (2) EXCEPTION.—The Secretary may omit from  
9 the pilot program a medical center located in the  
10 VISN selected if the Secretary—

11                   (A) determines that—

12                           (i) the Secretary already uses weapon  
13 screening technology at the primary en-  
14 trance of such medical center; or

15                           (ii) the medical center has a staffing  
16 shortage that makes participation in the  
17 pilot program impracticable; and

18                   (B) submits to the Committees on Vet-  
19 erans' Affairs of the Senate and House of Rep-  
20 resentatives written notice of such omission be-  
21 fore the Secretary carries out the pilot program.

22           (b) AGREEMENTS.—The Secretary may enter into an  
23 agreement with an entity to acquire weapon screening  
24 technology to carry out the pilot program. Any such agree-

1 ment shall terminate not later than the day the pilot pro-  
2 gram terminates.

3 (c) TERMINATION.—The pilot program shall termi-  
4 nate two years after the Secretary begins to carry out the  
5 pilot program.

6 (d) REPORT.—Not later than 90 days after the pilot  
7 program terminates, the Secretary, after consulting with  
8 the director of the VISN selected and the director of each  
9 medical center in such pilot program, shall submit to the  
10 Committees on Veterans' Affairs of the Senate and House  
11 of Representatives a report on the pilot program. Such  
12 report shall include the following:

13 (1) The determination of the Secretary of the  
14 usefulness and effectiveness of the weapon screening  
15 technology used.

16 (2) The satisfaction, determined by surveys con-  
17 ducted by the Secretary, with such pilot program,  
18 of—

19 (A) veterans who visited each medical cen-  
20 ter during such pilot program;

21 (B) Department police officers; and

22 (C) employees of the Department who  
23 worked at each such medical center during such  
24 pilot program.

1           (3) ) The determination of the Secretary wheth-  
2 er—

3           (A) existing policies regarding security  
4 screenings at medical centers of the Depart-  
5 ment are appropriate; and

6           (B) to update any such policy.

7 (e) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

8           (1) The term “primary entrance” means the  
9 entrance through which the most individuals pass on  
10 average per day.

11           (2) The term “VISN” means a Veterans Inte-  
12 grated Service Network.

13           (3) The term “weapon screening technology”  
14 means technology designed to screen individuals for  
15 weapons and other dangerous or prohibited items.

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