

118TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 42

To improve the management and performance of the capital asset programs of the Department of Veterans Affairs so as to better serve veterans, their families, caregivers, and survivors, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JANUARY 24 (legislative day, JANUARY 3), 2023

Mr. TESTER (for himself, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. BROWN, and Mr. WARNER) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs

A BILL

To improve the management and performance of the capital asset programs of the Department of Veterans Affairs so as to better serve veterans, their families, caregivers, and survivors, and for other purposes.

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; TABLE OF CONTENTS.**

4 (a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the
5 “Build, Utilize, Invest, Learn, and Deliver for Veterans
6 Act of 2023” or the “BUILD for Veterans Act of 2023”.

7 (b) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents for
8 this Act is as follows:

- Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.
 Sec. 2. Definitions.

TITLE I—CAPITAL ASSET MANAGEMENT

- Sec. 101. Improving capital asset staffing of Department of Veterans Affairs.
 Sec. 102. Development of performance metrics of capital asset management by Department of Veterans Affairs and monitoring for improvement.
 Sec. 103. Expansion of membership of the Capital Asset Planning Committee.

TITLE II—STRATEGIC PLAN AND REPORTS

- Sec. 201. Review of climate resilience of facilities, land, and other relevant capital assets of Department of Veterans Affairs.
 Sec. 202. Strategic plan to improve planning, management, budgeting, staffing, capacity, and performance of Department of Veterans Affairs capital asset activities.
 Sec. 203. Centralized management of capital asset disposal and reuse and annual report on completion of disposal and reuse activities of Department of Veterans Affairs.
 Sec. 204. Report on options to improve minor construction program of Department of Veterans Affairs.
 Sec. 205. Report on improvements to alignment of information technology funding and activation of medical and other space of Department of Veterans Affairs.
 Sec. 206. Reports on key capital asset investments, activities, and performance of Department of Veterans Affairs.
 Sec. 207. Reports on projected need for funding for infrastructure and capital assets of Department of Veterans Affairs.
 Sec. 208. Inspector General of the Department of Veterans Affairs reports on Department infrastructure projects.
 Sec. 209. Comptroller General reports on capital asset program management and execution by Department of Veterans Affairs.
 Sec. 210. Report on dental care physical infrastructure needs of Department of Veterans Affairs.
 Sec. 211. Report on long-term care physical infrastructure needs of Department of Veterans Affairs.
 Sec. 212. Report on feasibility and advisability of using a dedicated budget account for maintenance of capital assets of Department of Veterans Affairs.
 Sec. 213. Report on women veterans retrofit initiative.
 Sec. 214. Report on capital asset and information technology needs of the research and development program of Department of Veterans Affairs.
 Sec. 215. Review and report on provisions of law relating to Department of Veterans Affairs capital asset management and oversight.
 Sec. 216. Improving prevention, detection, and reporting of waste, fraud, and abuse in Department of Veterans Affairs capital asset projects and activities.

1 **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

2 In this Act:

1 (1) APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES OF CON-
2 GRESS.—The term “appropriate committees of Con-
3 gress” means—

4 (A) the Committee on Veterans’ Affairs
5 and the Committee on Appropriations of the
6 Senate; and

7 (B) the Committee on Veterans’ Affairs
8 and the Committee on Appropriations of the
9 House of Representatives.

10 (2) CAPITAL ASSET.—The term “capital asset”
11 means the physical infrastructure, land, buildings,
12 and other related items under the operation and con-
13 trol of the Department of Veterans Affairs, includ-
14 ing the information technology and other support
15 systems needed to ensure the physical space can be
16 used to deliver intended services and functions of the
17 Department.

18 **TITLE I—CAPITAL ASSET**
19 **MANAGEMENT**

20 **SEC. 101. IMPROVING CAPITAL ASSET STAFFING OF DE-**
21 **PARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS.**

22 (a) CAPITAL ASSET PERSONNEL OF THE DEPART-
23 MENT.—

24 (1) REQUIREMENT FOR DEDICATED OFFICES
25 AND SUFFICIENT STAFF.—Not later than 540 days

1 after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Sec-
2 retary of Veterans Affairs shall ensure that the De-
3 partment of Veterans Affairs has dedicated offices
4 or entities and sufficient staff, including at each
5 medical center of the Department, to conduct rel-
6 evant critical responsibilities for the life-cycle of cap-
7 ital asset management at the local, regional, and
8 central office level. This may include ensuring such
9 mix as the Secretary considers appropriate of per-
10 sonnel with duties from the following categories:

11 (A) Facility planning.

12 (B) Long-range capital planning.

13 (C) Management of projects and capital
14 assets relating to the execution of major con-
15 struction projects, minor construction projects,
16 major leases, minor leases, nonrecurring main-
17 tenance, and related matters at medical centers
18 and facilities of the Department in the sur-
19 rounding catchment areas of the centers and fa-
20 cilities.

21 (D) Property disposal or transfer, environ-
22 mental remediation, and historic preservation.

23 (E) Engineering, including matters relat-
24 ing to seismic repairs and projects.

1 (F) Maintenance and repair of existing in-
2 frastructure.

3 (G) The collection of views of veterans and
4 employees of the Department to understand the
5 capital assets needs of the Department.

6 (H) Other relevant functions relating to
7 the full life-cycle of capital asset management
8 of the Department as determined by the Sec-
9 retary.

10 (2) TASKS.—To the greatest extent practicable,
11 the Secretary shall ensure that each of the cat-
12 egories of duties under paragraph (1) are assigned
13 to a different individual or group of individuals so
14 as—

15 (A) to organize common work in a cohesive
16 manner; and

17 (B) not to overburden a small number of
18 individuals with such requirements.

19 (3) LEAD OFFICIAL.—Not later than 180 days
20 after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Sec-
21 retary shall—

22 (A) designate one individual as the lead
23 senior official responsible for integration and
24 coordination of, and accountability for, the eval-
25 uation of the capital asset workforce needs of

1 the Department, the staffing model established
2 under paragraph (4), and the ongoing imple-
3 mentation and monitoring of actions to ensure
4 adequate capital asset staffing across the De-
5 partment, including those at the field, regional,
6 and central offices of the Veterans Health Ad-
7 ministration, the National Cemetery Adminis-
8 tration, the Veterans Benefits Administration,
9 and the Office of Acquisition, Logistics, and
10 Construction; and

11 (B) notify the appropriate committees of
12 Congress who has been designated under sub-
13 paragraph (A).

14 (4) STAFFING MODEL.—

15 (A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than one year
16 after the date of the enactment of this Act, the
17 Secretary shall establish a staffing model for
18 the relevant administrations, staff offices, and
19 other elements of the Department to carry out
20 paragraph (1) that—

21 (i) ensures a minimum base level of
22 capital asset staffing; and

23 (ii) is adjusted based on the volume
24 and complexity of capital asset work of a

1 particular facility, catchment area, region,
2 or central office responsibility.

3 (B) UPDATE.—The Secretary shall update
4 the staffing model under subparagraph (A) reg-
5 ularly to ensure it is effective in carrying out
6 paragraph (1).

7 (5) TREATMENT OF STATES AND TERRITORIES
8 WITHOUT A MEDICAL CENTER.—In the case of a
9 State or territory of the United States in which the
10 Department does not operate a full-service medical
11 center, the Secretary shall, in carrying out para-
12 graph (1), ensure, to the greatest extent practicable,
13 that the Department has a dedicated office or entity
14 and sufficient staff at the largest medical facility of
15 the Department in that State or territory, and any
16 reference in this section to a medical center shall be
17 deemed to be a reference to that medical facility.

18 (6) PURPOSE AND INTENT.—The purpose of
19 this subsection is to ensure that field, regional, and
20 central offices of the Department of Veterans Affairs
21 have an appropriately sized and credentialed capital
22 asset workforce to allow for efficient and effective
23 execution of their relevant segment of capital asset
24 work. Nothing in this subsection is intended to man-

1 date a realignment of capital asset workforce roles,
2 responsibilities, and reporting structures.

3 (b) QUALIFICATIONS.—The Secretary shall ensure
4 that appropriate professional certifications, educational
5 background, and other qualifications are in effect for indi-
6 viduals employed in a position at a dedicated office or enti-
7 ty required by subsection (a) to manage the duties under
8 the categories set forth under subsection (a)(1).

9 (c) DUTIES OF DEDICATED OFFICES OR ENTITIES
10 AT MEDICAL CENTERS.—

11 (1) IN GENERAL.—The duties of a dedicated of-
12 fice or entity required by subsection (a) at a medical
13 center of the Department may include such combina-
14 tion of the following duties as the Secretary con-
15 siders appropriate to achieve efficient and effective
16 capital asset management and performance as it
17 pertains to relevant activities at the field level:

18 (A) The development, monitoring, and im-
19 plementation of capital asset objectives for the
20 catchment area surrounding the medical center,
21 including community-based outpatient clinics
22 and other sites of care of the Department in
23 that area.

24 (B) The coordination of capital asset man-
25 agement and planning with counterparts at

1 other medical centers of the Department in the
2 region and facility planners for the Veterans In-
3 tegrated Service Network or Networks in the
4 region.

5 (C) Effective delivery of capital asset
6 projects.

7 (D) Maintenance and repair of infrastruc-
8 ture.

9 (E) Capital asset disposal or transfer, envi-
10 ronmental remediation, and historic preserva-
11 tion.

12 (F) Regularly monitoring state-of-the-art
13 best practices in health care capital asset deliv-
14 ery and management.

15 (G) Constantly monitoring the needs of
16 veterans and employees of the Department as it
17 relates to medical space and services at the
18 medical center and facilities in the catchment
19 area surrounding the medical center to forward
20 plan and identify and submit plans, through
21 processes of the Department, to meet those
22 needs, including by formulating local and re-
23 gional capital improvement and asset manage-
24 ment plans for medical facilities of the Depart-
25 ment through the regular collection of—

1 (i) views and expectations of veterans,
2 including as expressed by relevant local or
3 national veterans service organizations, in
4 that area who are eligible users of health
5 care and related services provided by the
6 Department with respect to—

7 (I) preferences and needs of
8 those veterans for the care received
9 from medical facilities of the Depart-
10 ment in that area; and

11 (II) the need for improvements
12 and enhancements to infrastructure of
13 the Department; and

14 (ii) views of relevant medical staff of
15 the Department at the medical center and
16 facilities in that catchment area regarding
17 their preferences and needs for how to de-
18 liver health care to veterans and how those
19 preferences impact the infrastructure
20 needs of the Department.

21 (H) Understanding the capital asset poli-
22 cies, procedures, and directives of the Depart-
23 ment, including those issued by the central of-
24 fice of the Department, the Veterans Health
25 Administration, Veterans Integrated Service

1 Networks, the Office of Acquisition, Logistics,
2 and Construction, the Office of Asset Enter-
3 prise Management, the Office of General Coun-
4 sel, the Office of Information and Technology,
5 or any successor offices, and any other office of
6 the Department with significant responsibility
7 over capital asset management and planning.

8 (I) Implementing locally the policies, proce-
9 dures, and directives described in subparagraph
10 (H).

11 (J) Providing feedback regarding ways in
12 which the policies, procedures and directives de-
13 scribed in subparagraph (H) can be improved.

14 (K) Understanding the importance for col-
15 laboration and coordination among all relevant
16 offices of the Department, including the Office
17 of Acquisition, Logistics, and Construction, the
18 Office of Asset Enterprise Management, the Of-
19 fice of Information and Technology, or suc-
20 cessor offices with similar functions, and other
21 internal stakeholders as required to achieve suc-
22 cess in all phases of capital asset management.

23 (2) COLLECTION OF VIEWS AND EXPECTA-
24 TIONS.—

1 (A) IN GENERAL.—Views and expectations
2 may be collected under paragraph (1)(G)
3 through multiple channels and the process used
4 for such collection shall ensure that the views
5 and expectations collected provide a representa-
6 tive sample of the population from which such
7 views and expectations are collected.

8 (B) CONFIDENTIALITY.—Any information
9 collected under paragraph (1)(G) shall be col-
10 lected in a manner that provides an option for
11 submission of views that are anonymous and
12 confidential.

13 (C) INCLUSION OF DIVERSE VIEW-
14 POINTS.—In collecting views and expectations
15 of veterans and medical staff under paragraph
16 (1)(G), an office, entity, or relevant staff de-
17 scribed in subsection (a) for a medical center of
18 the Department shall ensure that the viewpoints
19 of a diverse population of veterans being served
20 by the medical center and medical staff of the
21 medical center or in the catchment area of the
22 medical center are captured.

23 (D) COORDINATION WITH EXISTING EF-
24 FORTS OF DEPARTMENT.—In carrying out
25 paragraph (1)(G) and this paragraph, the Sec-

1 retary shall use, as the Secretary considers ap-
2 propriate, existing efforts and expertise of the
3 Department through the Veterans Health Ad-
4 ministration, Office of Acquisition, Logistics,
5 and Construction, the Office of Asset Enter-
6 prise Management, and the Veterans Experi-
7 ence Office.

8 (E) USAGE OF VIEWS AND EXPECTA-
9 TIONS.—The views and expectations collected
10 under paragraph (1)(G) shall be used to inform
11 the offices, entities, or relevant staff described
12 in subsection (a)(1) and the broader leadership
13 of a medical center and Veterans Integrated
14 Service Networks of the Department to develop
15 plans for capital asset improvement.

16 (d) DEVELOPMENT OF STANDARD PROCESS TO SO-
17 LICIT VIEWS ON EFFECTIVENESS.—

18 (1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraph (3),
19 the Secretary shall develop a standardized process to
20 regularly solicit feedback from individuals and enti-
21 ties described in paragraph (2) regarding the effec-
22 tiveness of and ways to improve—

23 (A) the infrastructure and capital asset
24 management investment processes and proce-
25 dures of the central office of the Department

1 and Veterans Integrated Service Networks of
2 the Department; and

3 (B) the guidance of the central office and
4 Veterans Integrated Service Networks regard-
5 ing such processes and procedures to the med-
6 ical centers, facilities in the surrounding
7 catchment areas of those medical centers, and
8 Veterans Integrated Service Networks, as ap-
9 propriate.

10 (2) INDIVIDUALS AND ENTITIES DESCRIBED.—

11 The individuals and entities described in this para-
12 graph are the following:

13 (A) Each office, entity, or relevant staff
14 described in subsection (a)(1) for a medical cen-
15 ter of the Department.

16 (B) Medical staff of the Department at fa-
17 cilities in the surrounding catchment area of
18 the medical center.

19 (C) Veterans Integrated Service Networks.

20 (D) Staff of offices within the central of-
21 fice of the Department, including the Office of
22 Acquisition, Logistics, and Construction, the
23 Office of Asset Enterprise Management, and
24 the Office of Information and Technology, or
25 successor offices with similar functions.

1 (E) The Veterans Health Administration,
2 including its Office of Healthcare Environment
3 and Facilities Programs.

4 (F) Such other offices as the Secretary de-
5 termines relevant.

6 (3) ALIGNMENT WITH MARKET AREA ASSESS-
7 MENTS.—To the degree practicable, the Secretary
8 shall align the process developed and standardized
9 under paragraph (1) with the performance of market
10 area assessments under section 7330C(a) of title 38,
11 United States Code.

12 (4) CONFIDENTIALITY.—Any information col-
13 lected under paragraph (1) shall be collected in a
14 manner that provides an option for submission of
15 views that are anonymous and confidential.

16 (e) USE OF REPORT FINDINGS.—The Secretary shall
17 use the results of the report required under section 202
18 in establishing the offices, entities, or organizational struc-
19 tures required under subsection (a) and carrying out any
20 other requirements of this section.

1 **SEC. 102. DEVELOPMENT OF PERFORMANCE METRICS OF**
2 **CAPITAL ASSET MANAGEMENT BY DEPART-**
3 **MENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS AND MONI-**
4 **TORING FOR IMPROVEMENT.**

5 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than one year after the
6 date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Vet-
7 erans Affairs shall—

8 (1) develop meaningful and measurable goals
9 and metrics—

10 (A) to assess the performance of the cap-
11 ital asset management programs of the Depart-
12 ment of Veterans Affairs, including those car-
13 ried out by a non-Department Federal entity
14 under section 8103(e)(1) of title 38, United
15 States Code, to allow the Secretary to make
16 sound decisions regarding construction, leasing,
17 acquisition, maintenance, and disposal of cap-
18 ital assets; and

19 (B) that are in alignment with Department
20 strategic plans, budgets, and mission to serve
21 veterans, their families, and caregivers;

22 (2) develop an internal dashboard or other tool
23 to monitor progress towards meeting those goals;

24 (3) establish and implement internal governance
25 processes to direct necessary changes to improve
26 performance and achievement of those goals; and

1 (4) submit to appropriate committees of Con-
2 gress a report on the development of those goals and
3 metrics in paragraph (1) and the implementation of
4 the internal dashboard or other tool under para-
5 graph (2) and the internal governance process under
6 paragraph (3).

7 (b) INTERNAL DASHBOARD.—The Secretary shall en-
8 sure that the internal dashboard developed under sub-
9 section (a)(2) includes meaningful and relevant metrics
10 that—

11 (1) evaluate capital asset management perform-
12 ance of the Department and provide relevant infor-
13 mation to guide necessary improvements; and

14 (2) are developed consistent with recommenda-
15 tions set forth by the Comptroller General of the
16 United States.

17 (c) CONSIDERATION OF PART TWO OF STRATEGIC
18 PLAN TO IMPROVE VA’S DELIVERY AND MANAGEMENT
19 OF CAPITAL ASSET.—In developing the internal dash-
20 board under subsection (a)(2), the Secretary shall consider
21 the findings in part two of the Strategic Plan to Improve
22 VA’s Delivery and Management of Capital Asset required
23 under section 202(a)(4).

1 **SEC. 103. EXPANSION OF MEMBERSHIP OF THE CAPITAL**
 2 **ASSET PLANNING COMMITTEE.**

3 Not later than 180 days after the date of the enact-
 4 ment of this Act, in order to facilitate Federal health in-
 5 frastructure planning, coordination, and investment, the
 6 Deputy Secretary of Veterans Affairs and the Under Sec-
 7 retary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness shall mod-
 8 ify the membership of the Capital Asset Planning Com-
 9 mittee established as a subordinate entity of the Depart-
 10 ment of Veterans Affairs-Department of Defense Joint
 11 Executive Committee established under section 320 of title
 12 38, United States Code, to include the following:

13 (1) Not fewer than one officer or employee of
 14 the Indian Health Service.

15 (2) Not fewer than one officer or employee of
 16 the Department of Health and Human Services who
 17 is not an employee of the Indian Health Service.

18 **TITLE II—STRATEGIC PLAN AND**
 19 **REPORTS**

20 **SEC. 201. REVIEW OF CLIMATE RESILIENCE OF FACILITIES,**
 21 **LAND, AND OTHER RELEVANT CAPITAL AS-**
 22 **SETS OF DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AF-**
 23 **FAIRS.**

24 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Veterans Affairs
 25 shall conduct a comprehensive review of the climate resil-

1 ience of facilities, land, and other relevant capital assets
2 under the authority and jurisdiction of the Secretary.

3 (b) ELEMENTS.—

4 (1) IN GENERAL.—The review conducted under
5 subsection (a) shall—

6 (A) provide a comprehensive assessment of
7 existing facilities, land, and other relevant cap-
8 ital assets that may be at risk due to changes
9 in the climate, including potential vulnerabilities
10 related to—

11 (i) proximity to a body of water;

12 (ii) proximity to an area prone to
13 flooding;

14 (iii) proximity to an area prone to
15 wild fire;

16 (iv) proximity to an area prone to tor-
17 nadoes, hurricanes, or other storms; and

18 (v) such other matters as the Sec-
19 retary considers appropriate after con-
20 sulting with the United States Global
21 Change Research Program on the best
22 available observations and forward-looking
23 climate projections by region, including sea
24 level rise data;

1 (B) include a description of strategies to
2 improve the climate resilience of existing facili-
3 ties, land, and other relevant capital assets at
4 risk due to changes in the climate, including po-
5 tential modifications to facility operations and
6 maintenance practices, and the cost of such
7 strategies;

8 (C) include an analysis of the current de-
9 sign standards and building codes used by the
10 Department of Veterans Affairs to site, plan,
11 build, lease, renovate, and purchase land, facili-
12 ties, infrastructure, and other capital assets of
13 the Department and whether those design
14 standards and building codes reflect both ob-
15 served and forward-looking climate information;

16 (D) include an analysis of the effect of cli-
17 mate change on energy usage, energy sources,
18 and utility systems of the Department and the
19 Department's mitigation strategies;

20 (E) use, in consultation with the United
21 States Global Change Research Program, for-
22 ward-looking climate information and other pro-
23 jections to anticipate changing environmental
24 conditions during the design life of existing or
25 planned facilities, land, and other capital assets

1 of the Department and make relevant decisions
2 and planning strategies based on this informa-
3 tion;

4 (F) after consulting with the United States
5 Global Change Research Program and other
6 relevant Federal and non-Federal entities, in-
7 clude recommendations for best practices,
8 standards, and solutions for future placement,
9 planning, renovation, leasing, purchase, con-
10 struction, and disposal of facilities and land of
11 the Department so as to avoid or mitigate the
12 challenges resulting from placing a facility in
13 an area at risk of being vulnerable to harm
14 from the impacts of changing environmental
15 conditions; and

16 (G) assess how the Department can incor-
17 porate climate resilience information into its
18 processes and procedures for capital asset in-
19 vestment decisions.

20 (2) SOURCES OF INFORMATION AND PROJEC-
21 TIONS.—Sources of information and projections used
22 under paragraph (1)(E) may include the Bureau of
23 the Census (for population projections), the National
24 Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine
25 (for land use change projections and climate projec-

1 tions), the United States Geological Survey (for land
2 use change projections), the United States Global
3 Change Research Program and the National Climate
4 Assessment (for climate observations and projec-
5 tions), and such other sources as the Secretary con-
6 siders reliable in consultation with the United States
7 Global Change Research Program.

8 (c) REPORTS.—

9 (1) MISSION CRITICAL ASSETS.—Not later than
10 540 days after the date of the enactment of this Act,
11 the Secretary shall submit to the appropriate com-
12 mittees of Congress a report detailing the results of
13 the review conducted under subsection (a) with re-
14 spect to mission critical capital assets of the Depart-
15 ment and the actions the Secretary will take in re-
16 sponse to the findings of such review.

17 (2) ALL ASSETS.—Not later than one year after
18 the date on which the Secretary submits the report
19 under paragraph (1), the Secretary shall submit to
20 the appropriate committees of Congress a report de-
21 tailing the results of the review conducted under
22 subsection (a) with respect to all capital assets of
23 the Department and the actions the Secretary will
24 take in response to the findings of such review.

1 (3) ELEMENTS.—Each report submitted under
2 paragraphs (1) and (2) shall include, with respect to
3 the assets covered by the respective report, the fol-
4 lowing:

5 (A) Recommendations for legislative and
6 administrative action to mitigate and respond
7 to the findings contained in the review con-
8 ducted under subsection (a).

9 (B) A description of action taken or to be
10 taken by the Secretary to improve the climate
11 resilience of existing facilities, land, infrastruc-
12 ture and other relevant capital assets under the
13 jurisdiction or control of the Department.

14 (C) A description of changes in policy, di-
15 rectives, and procedures of the Department to
16 mitigate, plan for, and improve resilience of fu-
17 ture constructed, leased, or other facilities,
18 land, infrastructure, and other relevant capital
19 assets under the jurisdiction or control of the
20 Department.

21 (D) A description of how the Department
22 will incorporate climate resilience information
23 into its processes and procedures for capital
24 asset investment decisions.

1 (E) A description of changes the Depart-
2 ment will make to ensure the facilities, land, in-
3 frastructure, and other relevant capital assets
4 of the Department are available to furnish care
5 and services under section 1785 of title 38,
6 United States Code, during or following a dis-
7 aster or emergency.

8 (F) The estimated cost to implement the
9 changes described in the report.

10 (G) The estimated timeline to implement
11 the changes described in the report.

12 (H) Such other matters, recommendations,
13 or requests as the Secretary considers appro-
14 priate, including recommendations for relevant
15 legislative or administrative action.

16 (4) UPDATES.—

17 (A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than five
18 years after the date on which the Secretary
19 submits the report under paragraph (2) and not
20 less frequently than once every five years there-
21 after until the date that is 23 years after the
22 date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary
23 shall submit to the appropriate committees of
24 Congress an update of the report submitted
25 under paragraph (2).

1 (B) CONTENTS.—Each update submitted
2 under subparagraph (A) shall describe the ef-
3 forts of the Department since the submittal of
4 the latest report or update, as the case may be,
5 relating to matters covered by the report and
6 such other matters as the Secretary considers
7 appropriate.

8 (d) CLIMATE RESILIENCE DEFINED.—In this sec-
9 tion, the term “climate resilience” means—

10 (1) anticipating, preparing for, and adapting to
11 changing environmental conditions such as vari-
12 ations in average weather conditions that persist
13 over multiple decades or longer that encompass in-
14 creases and decreases in temperature, shifts in pre-
15 cipitation, and changing risk of certain types of se-
16 vere weather events; and

17 (2) the ability to withstand, respond to, and re-
18 cover rapidly from disruptions while ensuring the
19 sustainment of mission-critical operations.

20 **SEC. 202. STRATEGIC PLAN TO IMPROVE PLANNING, MAN-**
21 **AGEMENT, BUDGETING, STAFFING, CAPAC-**
22 **ITY, AND PERFORMANCE OF DEPARTMENT**
23 **OF VETERANS AFFAIRS CAPITAL ASSET AC-**
24 **TIVITIES.**

25 (a) INITIAL STRATEGIC PLAN.—

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 submit to the appro-
4 priate committees of Congress a strategic plan to
5 improve the planning, management, budgeting, staff-
6 ing, capacity, and performance by the Department
7 of Veterans Affairs relating to capital assets. Such
8 strategic plan shall be known as the “Strategic Plan
9 to Improve VA’s Delivery and Management of Cap-
10 ital Assets” (in this subsection referred to as the
11 “Plan”).

12 (2) STRUCTURE.—The Plan shall consist of not
13 fewer than two parts as set forth in this subsection.

14 (3) PART ONE.—

15 (A) IN GENERAL.—Part one of the Plan
16 shall focus on the human capital needs for the
17 capital asset and related areas workforce of the
18 Department (in this subsection referred to as
19 “Part One”).

20 (B) ELEMENTS.—Part One shall include
21 the following:

22 (i) A description of the steps being
23 taken by the Department, including by the
24 lead official designated under section
25 101(a)(3), and the steps that the Depart-

1 ment plans to take during the 10-year pe-
2 riod following the date of the Plan, includ-
3 ing a specific timeline, to ensure sufficient
4 capital asset personnel at the local, re-
5 gional, and central office levels of the De-
6 partment are available and prepared—

7 (I) to execute the current level of
8 capital asset work, including mainte-
9 nance, delivery of new facilities, dis-
10 posal, and reuse;

11 (II) to handle future capital asset
12 work described in subclause (I) during
13 such 10-year period; and

14 (III) to perform any other capital
15 asset activities as identified by the
16 Secretary.

17 (ii) A plan that addresses the needed
18 capital asset workforce of the Department
19 by—

20 (I) identifying and describing the
21 staffing needs and status of such
22 workforce, including—

23 (aa) the number of currently
24 authorized positions;

1 (bb) the number of filled po-
2 sitions of those positions author-
3 ized;

4 (cc) the number of unfilled
5 positions of those positions au-
6 thorized, including reasons why
7 those positions are not filled and
8 steps the Department is taking
9 to fill those positions;

10 (dd) the number of current
11 positions needed above the level
12 currently authorized; and

13 (ee) future needs, including
14 expected growth or reduction of
15 personnel, during the 10-year pe-
16 riod following the date of the
17 Plan;

18 (II) providing the data under
19 subclause (I) at the Departmental
20 level, disaggregated by relevant divi-
21 sions of the Department and by—

22 (aa) data for the Veterans
23 Health Administration, broken
24 out by field, Veterans Integrated
25 Service Network, and central of-

1 fice, including the Office of
2 Healthcare Environment and Fa-
3 cilities Programs;

4 (bb) data for the Office of
5 Acquisition, Logistics, and Con-
6 struction, broken out by field, re-
7 gion, and central office;

8 (cc) data for the National
9 Cemetery Administration, broken
10 out by field, region, and central
11 office;

12 (dd) data for the Veterans
13 Benefits Administration, broken
14 out by field, region, and central
15 office;

16 (ee) data for the Office of
17 Asset Enterprise Management;

18 (ff) data for the Office of
19 Information and Technology, bro-
20 ken out by field, region, and cen-
21 tral office; and

22 (gg) data for all other of-
23 fices of the Department not cov-
24 ered under items (aa) through
25 (ff) that have capital asset staff

1 or significant capital asset re-
2 sponsibilities or are key enablers
3 and support functions for capital
4 asset management at the field,
5 regional, or central office level;
6 and

7 (III) including an estimate of the
8 funding required to accomplish filling
9 the unfilled and future positions speci-
10 fied under subclause (I) during the
11 10-year period following the date of
12 the Plan.

13 (iii) A description of the efforts taken
14 and planned to be taken by the Depart-
15 ment to recruit, retain, and develop the ex-
16 isting and future capital asset workforce of
17 the Department.

18 (iv) A description of any changes
19 needed to the qualifications, standards, po-
20 sition descriptions and other related mat-
21 ters to ensure the qualification standards
22 of the workforce, including those resulting
23 from implementation of section 101(b)—

24 (I) match the needs of the De-
25 partment; and

1 (II) align where appropriate with
2 relevant Federal Government and in-
3 dustry standards and best practices.

4 (v) A description of how the Depart-
5 ment will coordinate the capital asset
6 human capital efforts of the Department
7 across the Veterans Health Administra-
8 tion, the Office of Acquisition, Logistics,
9 and Construction, the National Cemetery
10 Administration, the Veterans Benefits Ad-
11 ministration, the Office of Asset Enterprise
12 Management, or similar successor offices,
13 and other entities of the Department so as
14 to leverage collective efforts, reduce unnec-
15 essary duplication, and identify opportuni-
16 ties for collaboration and efficiency.

17 (vi) With respect to a Department-
18 wide succession plan for leadership and
19 mission-critical occupations in the capital
20 asset workforce of the Department—

21 (I) if such a plan is not already
22 developed, a timeline for the develop-
23 ment of such a plan; and

1 (II) if such a plan is already de-
2 veloped, the current implementation
3 status of such plan.

4 (vii) An assessment of different re-
5 gional challenges in rural, suburban, and
6 urban areas to recruit and retain the nec-
7 essary capital asset workforce of the De-
8 partment and steps to be taken by the De-
9 partment in response to such challenges.

10 (viii) With respect to the report pub-
11 lished by the National Academies of
12 Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine on
13 December 24, 2019, entitled “Facilities
14 Staffing Requirement for VHA-Resource
15 Planning and Methodology for the Fu-
16 ture”—

17 (I) a description of the rec-
18 ommendations from the report that
19 have already implemented;

20 (II) a plan and timeline to imple-
21 ment the recommendations from the
22 report that have not already been im-
23 plemented and the Secretary plans to
24 implement; and

1 (III) for each recommendation
2 from the report that has not already
3 been implemented and the Secretary
4 does not plan to implement, a descrip-
5 tion of the recommendation and a jus-
6 tification for the decision not to imple-
7 ment the recommendation.

8 (ix) A description of how the Depart-
9 ment will leverage, where appropriate and
10 relevant, contract support and partnerships
11 with other Federal agencies, nonprofit or-
12 ganizations, and other entities to meet the
13 short-, medium-, and long-term human
14 capital needs for infrastructure to ensure
15 that the Department has the experience
16 and workforce needed to match the current
17 and future projected infrastructure work-
18 load of the Department.

19 (x) A description of any improvements
20 to training or curriculum of the Depart-
21 ment that are needed to enhance the edu-
22 cation of the capital asset employees of the
23 Department to ensure they are as pro-
24 ficient as possible in their jobs.

1 (xi) A description of the status of the
2 implementation of the staffing model es-
3 tablished under section 101(a)(4).

4 (xii) A description of such legislative
5 or administrative action as the Secretary
6 considers necessary to recruit, retain, and
7 develop a strong capital asset management
8 workforce.

9 (xiii) Such other matters as the Sec-
10 retary considers necessary.

11 (C) STAFF COVERED BY STRATEGIC
12 PLAN.—Part One shall cover all relevant staff
13 required for the effective management of the
14 entire life-cycle of facilities, land, infrastruc-
15 ture, and other relevant capital assets of the
16 Department, including the following:

17 (i) Individuals who keep facilities
18 clean, such as janitorial and housekeeping
19 staff and housekeeping aids.

20 (ii) Individuals who maintain facili-
21 ties, such as through repairs and preventa-
22 tive maintenance.

23 (iii) Groundskeepers.

24 (iv) Planners, engineers, and archi-
25 tects.

1 (v) Project managers.

2 (vi) Individuals with expertise in real
3 estate, acquisition, leasing, and easements.

4 (vii) Energy or utility experts, includ-
5 ing experts with respect to energy effi-
6 ciency and renewable energy.

7 (viii) Individuals who work in—

8 (I) capital asset management;

9 (II) healthcare architecture and
10 engineering;

11 (III) environmental management;

12 or

13 (IV) occupational safety and
14 health.

15 (ix) Individuals who conduct con-
16 tracting, including contracting officers, re-
17 lated to capital assets locally, regionally, or
18 nationally for all various types of construc-
19 tion or infrastructure work, such as minor
20 construction, major construction, non-
21 recurring maintenance, and leases.

22 (x) Individuals knowledgeable in rel-
23 evant rules and procedures related to prop-
24 erty disposal or transfer, environmental re-

1 mediation, historic preservation, and other
2 similar topics.

3 (xi) Relevant legal counsel and staff
4 of the Office of General Counsel needed to
5 perform relevant duties that occur
6 throughout the entire life-cycle of capital
7 asset management activities.

8 (xii) Any other position that has a
9 critical role, including supporting or ena-
10 bling functions, in the planning, con-
11 tracting, delivery, maintenance, upkeep,
12 and disposal of capital assets.

13 (xiii) Any other positions the Sec-
14 retary determines relevant.

15 (4) PART TWO.—

16 (A) IN GENERAL.—Part two of the Plan
17 shall cover the methods undertaken by the De-
18 partment to accomplish changes to improve the
19 planning, execution, and delivery of capital
20 asset projects of the Department, such as main-
21 tenance, renovations, land acquisition, disposal,
22 reuse, or new construction or leasing, including
23 through better planning, project management,
24 cost, and schedule performance (in this sub-
25 section referred to as “Part Two”).

1 (B) ELEMENTS.—Part Two shall include
2 the following:

3 (i) A timeline for accomplishing the
4 changes described in subparagraph (A).

5 (ii) A description of the steps the De-
6 partment is taking or plans to take to
7 shorten the time it takes from project con-
8 cept to completion while controlling costs
9 and budget, and achieving established
10 goals.

11 (iii) A description of the steps the De-
12 partment is taking or plans to take to in-
13 crease the capacity and ability of the De-
14 partment to complete a larger number of
15 projects in a given year.

16 (iv) A description of what new or
17 modified contracting or other services, ar-
18 rangements, strategies, contract vehicles or
19 mechanisms, innovations, pilots, and part-
20 nerships the Department is planning to use
21 during the five-year period following the
22 date of the Plan, including—

23 (I) a timeline of how and when
24 the Department will test and imple-
25 ment those approaches; and

1 (II) a description of any limita-
2 tions under current law (including
3 regulations) that would prevent or are
4 preventing the Department from
5 using innovative contracting vehicles,
6 services, arrangements, administrative
7 action, or other agreements and strat-
8 egies and what legislative changes are
9 needed to facilitate use of those ap-
10 proaches, including a description of
11 whether each limitation is a limitation
12 for all Federal agencies or only for
13 the Department.

14 (v) A description of the costs incurred
15 or added to meet Federal or Department
16 standards, including those for resiliency,
17 accessibility, and other areas that are
18 needed and may be greater or more strin-
19 gent than private industry standards.

20 (vi) A description of the steps the De-
21 partment is taking or plans to take to im-
22 prove capital project delivery by standard-
23 izing facility design, modularizing facilities
24 components, and taking other steps to ac-
25 celerate project delivery while maintaining

1 flexibility, agility, and quality, including a
2 timeline for the completion of such steps.

3 (vii) A description of steps the De-
4 partment is taking or plans to take to
5 make all of its relevant capital assets en-
6 ergy efficient.

7 (viii) The steps the Secretary is tak-
8 ing or plans to take to ensure the Office of
9 Information and Technology and the Office
10 of Acquisition, Logistics, and Construction
11 of the Department, or similar successor of-
12 fices, are integrated into all relevant as-
13 pects of the capital asset planning and im-
14 plementation process of the Department,
15 including at the earliest stage of every rel-
16 evant capital asset project in the field so as
17 to improve communication, coordination,
18 and project scope, cost, and schedule.

19 (ix) A description of any other actions
20 the Department is taking or plans to take
21 to improve its delivery and management of
22 capital assets.

23 (x) A description of such legislative or
24 administrative action as the Secretary con-
25 siders necessary to more effectively manage

1 and deliver needed capital assets of the
2 Department.

3 (xi) Such other matters as the Sec-
4 retary considers necessary.

5 (b) SUBSEQUENT REPORTS.—Not later than three
6 years after the date on which the strategic plan required
7 by subsection (a) is submitted pursuant to paragraph (1)
8 of such subsection, and once every three years thereafter
9 for a period of six years, the Secretary shall submit to
10 the appropriate committees of Congress a report includ-
11 ing—

12 (1) a description of any changes with respect to
13 the matters described in paragraphs (3) and (4) of
14 subsection (a) since the strategic plan was submitted
15 or the previous report was submitted under this sub-
16 section, whichever may have been more recent;

17 (2) an explanation of which plans, actions, and
18 initiatives contained in the strategic plan or previous
19 report, as the case may be, were carried out;

20 (3) a list of plans, actions, and initiatives from
21 the strategic plan or previous report, as the case
22 may be, that were not carried out and the reasons
23 for such lack of action;

24 (4) a discussion of the results and performance
25 of the Department since the strategic plan or the

1 previous report, as the case may be, including in
2 cost savings, faster project delivery, increased capac-
3 ity to complete an increased number of projects in
4 a given year, and reduction in the number of
5 unaddressed priority capital asset improvements;
6 and

7 (5) such other matters as the Secretary con-
8 siders necessary.

9 **SEC. 203. CENTRALIZED MANAGEMENT OF CAPITAL ASSET**
10 **DISPOSAL AND REUSE AND ANNUAL REPORT**
11 **ON COMPLETION OF DISPOSAL AND REUSE**
12 **ACTIVITIES OF DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS**
13 **AFFAIRS.**

14 (a) CENTRALIZED MANAGEMENT.—

15 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than one year
16 after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Sec-
17 retary of Veterans Affairs shall, to the greatest ex-
18 tent practicable, centralize and consolidate the man-
19 agement and oversight of all disposal and reuse ac-
20 tivities of the Department of Veterans Affairs within
21 one office or sub-office of the Department which
22 shall have the sole focus of property disposal, includ-
23 ing reuse, transfer, and demolition.

24 (2) PLANS AND GOALS.—The office or sub-of-
25 fice described in paragraph (1) shall be focused on

1 developing and implementing a measurable plan with
2 yearly goals to dispose of, reuse, or transfer relevant
3 capital assets.

4 (3) CONSOLIDATION OF FUNCTIONS AND EM-
5 PLOYEES.—To the greatest extent practical, the Sec-
6 retary shall consolidate the functions and employees
7 of the office or sub-office described in paragraph (1)
8 within one organization element of the Department
9 so as to improve effectiveness, efficiency, and ac-
10 countability.

11 (4) DISPOSAL MANAGEMENT REPORT.—

12 (A) REPORT REQUIRED.—Not later than
13 one year after the date of the enactment of this
14 Act, the Secretary shall submit to the appro-
15 priate Committees of Congress a report on the
16 actions of the Secretary to carry out this sub-
17 section.

18 (B) CONTENTS.—The report submitted
19 under subparagraph (A) shall include the fol-
20 lowing:

21 (i) A description of whether and how
22 the consolidation has been carried out as
23 required by this subsection.

1 (ii) Identification of the responsible
2 single official with oversight over all capital
3 asset disposals of the Department.

4 (iii) Observations or conclusions re-
5 garding the challenges of managing capital
6 asset disposals of the Department.

7 (iv) Such recommendations for admin-
8 istrative or legislative action as the Sec-
9 retary may have to improve the organiza-
10 tion and effectiveness of the capital asset
11 disposal work of the Department.

12 (b) INITIAL DISPOSAL AND REUSE PROGRESS RE-
13 PORT.—

14 (1) REPORT REQUIRED.—The Secretary shall
15 include with the budget justification materials that
16 are submitted to Congress in support of the Depart-
17 ment budget for the first fiscal year beginning after
18 the date of the enactment of this Act (as submitted
19 with the budget of the President for such fiscal year
20 under section 1105(a) of title 31, United States
21 Code) a report containing a specific timeline to ac-
22 complish the disposal and reuse actions the Sec-
23 retary included in the disposal and reuse reports in-
24 cluded in the annual budget of the Department of
25 Veterans Affairs submitted by the President under

1 section 1105(a) of title 31, United States Code, or
2 similar future reports.

3 (2) CONTENTS.—The report required by para-
4 graph (1) shall include the following:

5 (A)(i) A description of a specific timeline
6 and plan to sell, reuse, dispose of, demolish,
7 transfer, or otherwise manage the capital as-
8 sets, including individual structures and build-
9 ings, that the Secretary has identified in the re-
10 ports described in such paragraph in the next
11 fiscal year and over the next five fiscal years.

12 (ii) A description under clause (i) shall—

13 (I) indicate those disposal projects
14 that the Secretary believes have a business
15 case to conduct a disposal and those that
16 the Secretary believes lack a business case;
17 and

18 (II) include an explanation for such
19 reasoning.

20 (B) A list of any impediments or chal-
21 lenges, on a project by project basis and in the
22 aggregate, to carrying out any action described
23 in subparagraph (A), including funding con-
24 straints, environmental remediation and preser-
25 vation mitigation and any need for administra-

1 tive or legislative action to address those im-
2 pediments or challenges.

3 (C) A discussion of whether disposal and
4 reuse actions do not get completed or initiated
5 because they may compete for resources with
6 urgent health care delivery or other more time-
7 sensitive infrastructure or other operational
8 needs of the Department.

9 (D) A detailed cost estimate of the fund-
10 ing, including funding type, needed to accom-
11 plish all of the actions described in paragraph
12 (1), including the number of fiscal years for
13 which such funding is needed and an indication
14 of what funding for capital asset disposal and
15 reuse activities is included in the budget of the
16 President with which the report under such
17 paragraph is included.

18 (E) A discussion of whether the Depart-
19 ment would benefit from having a distinct and
20 separate account within the budget of the De-
21 partment dedicated to the management of the
22 disposal and reuse of these assets.

23 (F) The cost to maintain capital assets
24 waiting to be processed for disposal or reuse for

1 the preceding fiscal year, disaggregated by
2 project.

3 (G) Such other matters as the Secretary
4 considers appropriate.

5 (c) SUBSEQUENT DISPOSAL AND REUSE PROGRESS
6 REPORTS.—

7 (1) SUBSEQUENT REPORTS REQUIRED.—For
8 the first fiscal year after the fiscal year referred to
9 in subsection (b)(1) and each fiscal year thereafter,
10 the Secretary shall include with the budget justifica-
11 tion materials that are submitted to Congress in
12 support of the Department budget (as submitted
13 with the budget of the President for such fiscal year
14 under section 1105(a) of title 31, United States
15 Code) a report on actions described in such sub-
16 section.

17 (2) CONTENTS.—Each report required by para-
18 graph (1) shall include the following:

19 (A) An update to the most recent report
20 under subsection (b) or this subsection, as ap-
21 plicable, with respect to each of subparagraphs
22 (A) through (G) of paragraph (2) of such sub-
23 section.

1 (B) Information on how many disposal and
2 reuse actions from the previous year's report
3 were accomplished or not accomplished.

4 (C) Information about what may have in-
5 hibited the accomplishment of those actions de-
6 scribed in subparagraph (B) that were not ac-
7 complished.

8 (D) A description of best practices or les-
9 sons learned with respect to actions described in
10 subsection (b)(1).

11 (E) Such other matters as the Secretary
12 considers appropriate and relevant.

13 **SEC. 204. REPORT ON OPTIONS TO IMPROVE MINOR CON-**
14 **STRUCTION PROGRAM OF DEPARTMENT OF**
15 **VETERANS AFFAIRS.**

16 (a) REPORT REQUIRED.—Not later than 180 days
17 after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary
18 of Veterans Affairs shall submit to the appropriate com-
19 mittees of Congress a report on potential options and al-
20 ternatives to improve, reform, and provide more flexibility
21 to the minor construction activities of the Department of
22 Veterans Affairs so as to increase effectiveness in com-
23 mencing and delivering minor construction capital asset
24 projects.

1 (b) CONTENTS.—The report submitted under sub-
2 section (a) shall include the following:

3 (1) A discussion regarding legislative or admin-
4 istrative action to define the term “minor construc-
5 tion” for purposes of Department budgeting and ac-
6 counting by using an automatic adjustment of the
7 threshold using—

8 (A) an index to adjust for inflation; and

9 (B) another index to adjust for regional
10 variations and trends in the cost of construc-
11 tion.

12 (2) A discussion of whether the practice of the
13 Department entering into multiple minor construc-
14 tion projects rather than one larger major construc-
15 tion project is an efficient best practice for delivery
16 of capital asset projects.

17 (3) A discussion of whether the Department
18 should adopt any best practices of other Federal
19 agencies or non-Federal entities for its minor con-
20 struction capital asset projects.

21 (4) Such other suggestions for legislative or ad-
22 ministrative action as the Secretary may have with
23 respect to the management, including project thresh-
24 olds, of minor construction capital asset projects.

1 (5) Such other matters as the Secretary con-
2 siders appropriate.

3 (c) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

4 (1) MAJOR CONSTRUCTION.—The term “major
5 construction” means capital project to construct,
6 alter, extend, or improve any facility that involves a
7 total expenditure of more than \$20,000,000, includ-
8 ing a major medical facility project (as defined in
9 section 8104(a)(3) of title 38, United States Code).

10 (2) MINOR CONSTRUCTION.—The term “minor
11 construction” means a capital project to construct,
12 alter, extend, or improve any facility that involves a
13 total expenditure of \$20,000,000 or less.

14 **SEC. 205. REPORT ON IMPROVEMENTS TO ALIGNMENT OF**
15 **INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY FUNDING AND**
16 **ACTIVATION OF MEDICAL AND OTHER SPACE**
17 **OF DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS.**

18 (a) REPORT REQUIRED.—Not later than 180 days
19 after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary
20 of Veterans Affairs shall submit to the appropriate com-
21 mittees of Congress a report on any potential improve-
22 ments to the alignment of funding of the Department of
23 Veterans Affairs for information technology so as to facili-
24 tate more effective and efficient activation of medical and
25 other relevant space of the Department.

1 (b) ELEMENTS.—The report required by subsection
2 (a) shall include the following:

3 (1) A description of any current limitations on
4 funding mechanisms, including the timing and se-
5 quencing of information technology and health care
6 resources that are needed to purchase, procure, and
7 install information technology equipment and related
8 information technology assets and services needed
9 for the activation of medical and other relevant
10 space of the Department, whether leased, owned, or
11 otherwise under the jurisdiction of the Department.

12 (2) Any proposed solutions the Secretary may
13 have to address the limitations described in para-
14 graph (1).

15 (3) Any legislative or administrative action re-
16 quired to achieve the solutions described in para-
17 graph (2).

18 (4) Such other matters as the Secretary con-
19 siders appropriate.

20 **SEC. 206. REPORTS ON KEY CAPITAL ASSET INVESTMENTS,**
21 **ACTIVITIES, AND PERFORMANCE OF DEPART-**
22 **MENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS.**

23 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 8120 of title 38, United
24 States Code, is amended to read as follows:

1 **“§ 8120. Reports on key capital asset investments, ac-**
2 **tivities, and performance**

3 “(a) CAPITAL ASSET INVESTMENT, ACTIVITIES, AND
4 PERFORMANCE.—

5 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 30 days
6 after the end of each fiscal year, and every 60 days
7 thereafter until the end of that fiscal year, the Sec-
8 retary shall submit to the appropriate committees of
9 Congress a report on key capital asset investments,
10 activities, and performance of the Department.

11 “(2) ELEMENTS.—

12 “(A) FIRST REPORT IN EACH FISCAL
13 YEAR.—The first report under paragraph (1) in
14 each fiscal year shall include the following:

15 “(i) A brief summary of each capital
16 asset project that was completed in the
17 previous fiscal year.

18 “(ii) A brief summary of the accom-
19 plishments, impediments, and challenges
20 experienced by the Department with re-
21 spect to capital asset projects in the pre-
22 vious fiscal year and a description of ef-
23 forts made to address any such impedi-
24 ments and challenges.

1 “(iii) With respect to each capital
2 asset project completed in such year, the
3 following:

4 “(I) The type of project (major
5 construction, minor construction, non-
6 recurring maintenance, leases, or
7 other category, including disposals).

8 “(II) The estimated total cost
9 and the actual total cost of the
10 project.

11 “(III) A description of the
12 project.

13 “(IV) The location and facility
14 with respect to which the project was
15 carried out.

16 “(V) The fiscal quarter the
17 project was expected to begin, the fis-
18 cal quarter the project began, the
19 month and year the project was com-
20 pleted, and the fiscal quarter the facil-
21 ity in connection to such project was
22 in use by veterans, employees of the
23 Department, or other relevant users,
24 as the case may be.

1 “(iv) In the case of any capital asset
2 project completed during the previous fis-
3 cal year with respect to which the final
4 cost of the project (or any increment of the
5 project) was more than 10 percent greater
6 than the estimated cost of the project (or
7 increment) or the completion of such
8 project (or increment) was more than 180
9 days later than the planned schedule for
10 such project (or increment)—

11 “(I) the reason for any such
12 overage or delay; and

13 “(II) actions being taken to pre-
14 vent any such overage or delay in fu-
15 ture projects.

16 “(v) A list of any capital asset
17 projects cancelled during the previous fis-
18 cal year, including any projects in the de-
19 sign phase and including the reason for the
20 cancellation.

21 “(vi) A summary of total actual obli-
22 gations for capital asset projects for the
23 previous fiscal year, broken out by major
24 construction, minor construction, non-re-
25 ccurring maintenance, and leases, from the

1 medical facilities appropriation account of
2 the Department.

3 “(vii) A projected list of capital asset
4 projects, broken out by type of project
5 under subclause (I), that are expected to
6 be initiated during the current fiscal year
7 and those that are expected to be com-
8 pleted during the current fiscal year, which
9 shall include the following:

10 “(I) The type of project (major
11 construction, minor construction, non-
12 recurring maintenance, leases, or
13 other category, including disposals).

14 “(II) The estimated total cost of
15 the project.

16 “(III) A description of the
17 project.

18 “(IV) The location and facility
19 with respect to which the project was
20 carried out or is expected to be car-
21 ried out.

22 “(V) The fiscal quarter the
23 project is expected to begin, the fiscal
24 quarter the project is expected to be
25 completed, and the fiscal quarter the

1 facility in connection to such project
2 is expected to be in use by veterans,
3 employees of the Department, or other
4 relevant users, as the case may be.

5 “(viii) Projected total obligations for
6 capital asset projects for the current fiscal
7 year, broken out by major construction,
8 minor construction, non-recurring mainte-
9 nance, and leases, from the medical facili-
10 ties appropriation account of the Depart-
11 ment.

12 “(ix) Such observations of best prac-
13 tices, impediments, and accomplishments
14 related to the capital asset management
15 and performance of the Department, in-
16 cluding any legislative or administrative
17 action, as the Secretary considers appro-
18 priate with respect to such practices, im-
19 pediments, and accomplishments.

20 “(x) Meaningful metrics that show the
21 progress of the Department toward meet-
22 ing relevant goals of the Department relat-
23 ing to capital asset management.

24 “(xi) Such other matters as the Sec-
25 retary considers appropriate.

1 “(B) SUBSEQUENT REPORTS.—Each re-
2 port in a fiscal year after the first report shall
3 include, at a minimum, relevant updates on any
4 capital asset projects that are ongoing during
5 that fiscal year, including any updates to infor-
6 mation provided with respect to such projects
7 under subparagraph (A).

8 “(C) METRICS.—Beginning not later than
9 two years after the date of the enactment of the
10 BUILD for Veterans Act of 2023, the metrics
11 described in subparagraph (A)(x) shall include
12 the metrics developed under section 102(a)(1)
13 of such Act.

14 “(3) MATTERS RELATING TO REPORTING
15 COSTS.—In each report under paragraph (1), when
16 reporting on costs for capital asset projects, the Sec-
17 retary may include information regarding Federal
18 requirements, including those specific to the Depart-
19 ment, that may not exist in the non-Federal con-
20 struction sector that may increase costs for capital
21 asset projects.

22 “(b) SUPER CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS.—

23 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 30 days
24 after the end of each fiscal year, and every 60 days
25 thereafter until the end of that fiscal year, the Sec-

1 retary shall submit to the appropriate committees of
2 Congress a report on the super construction projects
3 carried out by the appropriate non-Department Fed-
4 eral entity described in section 8103(e)(1) of this
5 title during such year.

6 “(2) ELEMENTS.—Each report required under
7 paragraph (1) shall include, for each project de-
8 scribed in such paragraph—

9 “(A) the budgetary and scheduling status
10 of the project, as of the last day of the most re-
11 cent fiscal quarter ending before the date on
12 which the report is required to be submitted;
13 and

14 “(B) the actual cost and schedule
15 variances of the project, as of such day, com-
16 pared to the planned cost and schedules for the
17 project.

18 “(c) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

19 “(1) APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES OF CON-
20 GRESS.—The term ‘appropriate committees of Con-
21 gress’ means—

22 “(A) the Committee on Appropriations and
23 the Committee on Veterans’ Affairs of the Sen-
24 ate; and

1 “(B) the Committee on Appropriations and
 2 the Committee on Veterans’ Affairs of the
 3 House of Representatives.

4 “(2) CAPITAL ASSET PROJECT.—The term ‘cap-
 5 ital asset project’ means a capital asset investment
 6 or activity of the Department.

7 “(3) SUPER CONSTRUCTION PROJECT.—The
 8 term ‘super construction project’ has the meaning
 9 given such term in section 8103(e)(3) of this title.”.

10 (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections
 11 at the beginning of subchapter I of chapter 81 of title 38,
 12 United States Code, is amended by striking the item relat-
 13 ing to section 8120 and inserting the following new item:
 “8120. Reports on key capital asset investments, activities, and performance.”.

14 **SEC. 207. REPORTS ON PROJECTED NEED FOR FUNDING**
 15 **FOR INFRASTRUCTURE AND CAPITAL ASSETS**
 16 **OF DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS.**

17 (a) INITIAL REPORT.—Not later than 180 days after
 18 the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of
 19 Veterans Affairs shall submit to the appropriate commit-
 20 tees of Congress a report summarizing the projected
 21 amount of funding for infrastructure and capital assets
 22 that the Department of Veterans Affairs will need for the
 23 10 fiscal years that begin immediately following such date.

24 (b) SUBSEQUENT REPORTS.—The Secretary shall in-
 25 clude in the annual budget of the Department submitted

1 by the President under section 1105(a) of title 31, United
2 States Code, for fiscal year 2025 and each fiscal year
3 thereafter a report described in subsection (a) relating to
4 the 10 fiscal years that begin immediately following the
5 date on which such budget is submitted.

6 (c) ELEMENTS.—Each report required by this section
7 shall include, for each fiscal year covered by the report
8 and for the entire period covered by the report, the fol-
9 lowing:

10 (1) The projected funding needs of the Depart-
11 ment disaggregated by funding purpose, including
12 the following:

13 (A) Land acquisition.

14 (B) Operations and maintenance of facili-
15 ties of the existing capital asset portfolio of the
16 Department to include the minimum level of
17 funding below which facilities could not be ap-
18 propriately maintained.

19 (C) Operations and maintenance of the
20 planned future capital asset portfolio of the De-
21 partment.

22 (D) New construction, by type, including
23 major construction, minor construction, and
24 nonrecurring maintenance.

25 (E) Leasing.

1 (F) Activation of space.

2 (G) Disposal, reuse, and remediation.

3 (H) Staffing to support the planning, de-
4 livery, management, and maintenance of the
5 Department's current and future capital asset
6 portfolio.

7 (I) Such other categories as the Secretary
8 deems relevant.

9 (2) The projected funding needs under para-
10 graph (1) disaggregated by—

11 (A) not fewer than five major components
12 of the Department that use infrastructure re-
13 sources, including the Veterans Health Admin-
14 istration, the National Cemetery Administra-
15 tion, the Veterans Benefits Administration, the
16 Office of Information and Technology, and all
17 other staff offices of the Department; and

18 (B) type of capital asset investment.

19 (3) A description of the cost increases which
20 may or have been incurred because of the delay in
21 adequate, stable, and predictable funding and for-
22 ward movement on capital asset projects. Such de-
23 scription may include a discussion of the negative ef-
24 fect of the lack of stable and predictable capital
25 asset funding on the ability of the Department to

1 plan, staff, and execute effective capital asset man-
2 agement.

3 (4) A complete list of capital asset projects (re-
4 gardless of size or type) for which all relevant pre-
5 paratory work has been conducted and whose key
6 limiting factor in commencing is lack of sufficient
7 funds.

8 (5) Such other matters as the Secretary con-
9 siders appropriate, including matters relating to nec-
10 essary legislative or administrative action.

11 **SEC. 208. INSPECTOR GENERAL OF THE DEPARTMENT OF**
12 **VETERANS AFFAIRS REPORTS ON DEPART-**
13 **MENT INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS.**

14 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than three years after
15 the date of the enactment of this Act, and at least twice
16 during the six-year period beginning on the date that is
17 three years after the date of the enactment of this Act,
18 the Inspector General of the Department of Veterans Af-
19 fairs shall submit to the appropriate committees of Con-
20 gress a report examining the management and perform-
21 ance of relevant capital asset projects of the Department.

22 (b) SAMPLE PROJECTS.—The Inspector General shall
23 select meaningful and representative samples of categories
24 of projects and project management efforts for review, in-
25 cluding those that were initiated before the date of the

1 enactment of this Act and those that were initiated on or
2 after the date of the enactment of this Act, such as major
3 construction, minor construction, nonrecurring mainte-
4 nance, major and minor leases, land acquisition, and dis-
5 posals.

6 (c) ELEMENTS.—Each report submitted under sub-
7 section (a) may include, at the discretion of the Inspector
8 General, the following:

9 (1) A comparison of planned versus actual cost,
10 schedule, and scope metrics.

11 (2) Improvements or lack thereof to capital
12 asset project management, including staffing, at the
13 local, regional, or national levels.

14 (3) Observations on key characteristics inhib-
15 iting successful delivery of projects or allowing for
16 successful delivery of projects.

17 (4) Identification of areas of waste, fraud, and
18 abuse, if any.

19 (5) Such other matters as the Inspector Gen-
20 eral considers appropriate.

1 **SEC. 209. COMPTROLLER GENERAL REPORTS ON CAPITAL**
2 **ASSET PROGRAM MANAGEMENT AND EXECU-**
3 **TION BY DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AF-**
4 **FAIRS.**

5 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than three years after
6 the date of the enactment of this Act and not less fre-
7 quently than once every three years thereafter until the
8 date that is 9 years after the date of the enactment of
9 this Act, the Comptroller General of the United States
10 shall submit to the appropriate committees of Congress
11 a report reviewing the progress of the Department of Vet-
12 erans Affairs toward meeting the goals, metrics, and other
13 plans of the Department under this Act, particularly
14 under sections 101, 102, and 202.

15 (b) ELEMENTS.—Each report required by subsection
16 (a) may include the following:

17 (1) A review of the performance of the Depart-
18 ment related to planning, oversight, management of
19 human capital, contracting, and execution of capital
20 asset projects.

21 (2) A review of how the Department is com-
22 plying with the requirements of this Act.

23 (3) Such other topics as the Comptroller Gen-
24 eral considers appropriate.

1 **SEC. 210. REPORT ON DENTAL CARE PHYSICAL INFRA-**
2 **STRUCTURE NEEDS OF DEPARTMENT OF**
3 **VETERANS AFFAIRS.**

4 Not later than one year after the date of the enact-
5 ment of this Act, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall
6 submit to the appropriate committees of Congress a re-
7 port, disaggregated by medical center or other relevant
8 health care facility of the Department of Veterans Affairs,
9 on—

10 (1) the physical infrastructure needed (such as
11 new facilities, renovations, remodels, leases, or other
12 infrastructure) to provide dental services to veterans
13 eligible for such services under the laws adminis-
14 tered by the Secretary; and

15 (2) the project by project cost and total cost to
16 establish the physical infrastructure specified under
17 paragraph (1) and an estimated timeline to complete
18 such projects upon receipt of appropriate funding.

19 **SEC. 211. REPORT ON LONG-TERM CARE PHYSICAL INFRA-**
20 **STRUCTURE NEEDS OF DEPARTMENT OF**
21 **VETERANS AFFAIRS.**

22 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than one year after the
23 date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Vet-
24 erans Affairs shall submit to the appropriate committees
25 of Congress a report, disaggregated by medical center or
26 other relevant health care facility of the Department of

1 Veterans Affairs, identifying the physical infrastructure
2 needs of the Department to support current and future
3 anticipated long-term care needs and models of care for
4 veterans, including—

5 (1) infrastructure needed to support the deliv-
6 ery of long-term care for women veterans, veterans
7 with spinal cord injuries and diseases, veterans with
8 traumatic brain injury, veterans with unique behav-
9 ioral health needs, veterans with memory loss, and
10 other population groups with unique needs or pro-
11 jected future needs;

12 (2) information regarding the plans of the De-
13 partment to provide such care as the Department
14 builds internal capacity but space is not yet available
15 to meet the demand for such care; and

16 (3) with respect to any projects needed to pro-
17 vide the infrastructure specified under paragraph
18 (1)—

19 (A) the estimated individual project cost
20 and total cost to accomplish those projects; and

21 (B) the estimated individual project
22 timeline to accomplish each such project upon
23 receipt of appropriate funding.

24 (b) INCLUSION OF INFORMATION REGARDING
25 PRIORITIZATION OF CERTAIN PROJECTS.—The Secretary

1 shall include in the report required under subsection (a)
2 information regarding how the infrastructure
3 prioritization processes of the Department, such as the
4 Strategic Capital Investment Planning process, or suc-
5 cessor process, could be modified to include higher
6 prioritization of projects that support the provision of a
7 health care service that is not widely available, or is not
8 available in compliance with appropriate quality or access
9 standards, from non-Department providers.

10 (c) DEVELOPMENT OF REPORT.—In developing the
11 report required under subsection (a), the Secretary shall
12 consult with relevant regional and national program of-
13 fices of the Veterans Health Administration with responsi-
14 bility to manage the various health care services covered
15 by the report, including long-term care and care relating
16 to spinal cord injuries and diseases, to ensure that the
17 report contains a holistic, comprehensive, and integrated
18 plan to address the capital asset and other space needs
19 for the population of veterans who require those services.

20 (d) INDICATION OF TYPES OF PROJECTS.—In the re-
21 port required under subsection (a), the Secretary shall in-
22 dicate the projects that can be most efficiently and effec-
23 tively accomplished through smaller individual infrastruc-
24 ture projects or through a larger medical facility replace-
25 ment or new site of care, as determined by the Secretary.

1 **SEC. 212. REPORT ON FEASIBILITY AND ADVISABILITY OF**
2 **USING A DEDICATED BUDGET ACCOUNT FOR**
3 **MAINTENANCE OF CAPITAL ASSETS OF DE-**
4 **PARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS.**

5 (a) **REPORT REQUIRED.**—Not later than 180 days
6 after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary
7 of Veterans Affairs shall submit to the appropriate com-
8 mittees of Congress a report on the feasibility and advis-
9 ability of requesting that Congress create a dedicated
10 budget account from which the Department of Veterans
11 Affairs would request funds, based on relevant method-
12 ology, formulas and percentages tied to the existing and
13 future capital asset needs of the Department, and if such
14 funds are provided, draw upon to pay for maintenance,
15 preventative maintenance, and repair of the capital assets
16 of the Department.

17 (b) **CONTENTS.**—The report required by subsection
18 (a) shall include the following:

19 (1) The best practices used by the Department,
20 drawing from the Federal Government, State and
21 local governments, nonprofit organizations, private
22 industry, and other appropriate entities, relating to
23 stable and consistent planning and budgeting for
24 capital asset maintenance.

25 (2) Relevant formulas and percentages that the
26 Department currently uses to identify the resources

1 required for capital asset maintenance or could use
2 to dedicate or segment off funds to pay for needed
3 and expected maintenance costs based on the size,
4 need, complexity, and other requirements of the cap-
5 ital asset portfolio of the Department.

6 (3) Such other information as the Secretary
7 considers appropriate.

8 **SEC. 213. REPORT ON WOMEN VETERANS RETROFIT INITIA-**
9 **TIVE.**

10 Section 5102 of the Deborah Sampson Act of 2020
11 (title V of Public Law 116–315; 38 U.S.C. 8110 note)
12 is amended—

13 (1) by redesignating subsection (c) as sub-
14 section (d); and

15 (2) by inserting after subsection (b) the fol-
16 lowing new subsection (c):

17 “(c) REPORT ON PROJECTS.—

18 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than one year
19 after the date of the enactment of the BUILD for
20 Veterans Act of 2023, the Secretary shall submit to
21 the appropriate committees of Congress a report
22 containing—

23 “(A) an identification of the funding re-
24 quested and the funding provided to the De-

1 department for retrofitting prioritized under sub-
2 section (a) as of the date of the report;

3 “(B) a list of projects conducted with such
4 funding as of such date, including—

5 “(i) amounts obligated for each such
6 project;

7 “(ii) the locations of each such
8 project;

9 “(iii) a short description of each such
10 project; and

11 “(iv) the status of each such project,
12 including an estimated timeline to complete
13 the project; and

14 “(C) a list of projects for retrofitting
15 prioritized under subsection (a) as of such date
16 that remain unfunded as of such date, includ-
17 ing—

18 “(i) the estimated funding required
19 for those projects to be completed, on a
20 project by project basis; and

21 “(ii) an estimated timeline to complete
22 each such project if necessary funding and
23 other resources are provided.

24 “(2) UPDATES.—Not later than one year after
25 the submittal of the report under paragraph (1), and

1 annually thereafter until the earlier of the date that
2 is 10 years after the submittal of such report or the
3 date on which all projects listed under subpara-
4 graphs (B) and (C) of such paragraph have been
5 completed, the Secretary shall submit to the appro-
6 priate committees of Congress a report on—

7 “(A) the progress made by the Secretary
8 in completing such projects; and

9 “(B) an identification of the funding re-
10 quested and the funding provided to the De-
11 partment to complete such projects.

12 “(3) APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES OF CON-
13 GRESS.—In this subsection, the term ‘appropriate
14 committees of Congress’ means—

15 “(A) the Committee on Appropriations and
16 the Committee on Veterans’ Affairs of the Sen-
17 ate; and

18 “(B) the Committee on Appropriations and
19 the Committee on Veterans’ Affairs of the
20 House of Representatives.”.

1 **SEC. 214. REPORT ON CAPITAL ASSET AND INFORMATION**
2 **TECHNOLOGY NEEDS OF THE RESEARCH AND**
3 **DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM OF DEPARTMENT**
4 **OF VETERANS AFFAIRS.**

5 (a) REPORT REQUIRED.—Not later than one year
6 after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary
7 of Veterans Affairs shall submit to Congress a report on
8 the capital asset and information technology needs of the
9 research and development program of the Department of
10 Veterans Affairs.

11 (b) CONTENTS.—

12 (1) IN GENERAL.—The report required by sub-
13 section (a) shall include the following:

14 (A) A comprehensive summary of new fa-
15 cilities, renovations of existing facilities, leasing
16 of facilities and any other such facilities or
17 physical infrastructure the Department requires
18 to effectively perform its research and develop-
19 ment functions, including projected functions.

20 (B) Detailed information on the informa-
21 tion technology resources, projects, equipment,
22 and related information technology needs,
23 disaggregated by type of information technology
24 funding categories, such as development or op-
25 erations and maintenance, the Department re-
26 quires in order to make the research and devel-

1 opment program and activities of the Depart-
2 ment functional and high performing in the
3 short, medium, and long term, and those need-
4 ed to enable employees of the Department to
5 perform their research and development in an
6 effective and efficient manner.

7 (C) Such matters as the Secretary deems
8 relevant to maintain and further improve and
9 advance the research and development functions
10 of the Department through improved capital
11 asset and information technology support.

12 (2) REQUIREMENTS.—

13 (A) FACILITIES.—

14 (i) SUMMARIES BY PROJECT.—In pro-
15 viding information under paragraph
16 (1)(A), the Secretary shall provide esti-
17 mated summaries for each project with
18 cost data as well as a realistic multi-year
19 plan to design and deliver the capital asset
20 projects, assuming required funding is pro-
21 vided.

22 (ii) IDENTIFICATION OF PROJECTS.—

23 Each project shall be identified by its
24 project type such as major construction,
25 minor construction, nonrecurring mainte-

1 nance, major lease, minor lease, or such
2 other category as the Secretary determines
3 may be appropriate.

4 (B) INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY.—In pro-
5 viding information under paragraph (1)(B), the
6 Secretary shall provide estimated summaries for
7 each project or investment with individual and
8 total cost data as well as a realistic multi-year
9 plan to develop relevant requirements and ac-
10 quire and deploy the relevant information tech-
11 nology services, projects, equipment, and re-
12 lated matters.

13 (C) SCOPE.—The scope of the report sub-
14 mitted under subsection (a) is on the capital
15 asset, information technology, and other related
16 critical support functions, excluding human cap-
17 ital related needs, needed for the Department to
18 perform research and development in an effec-
19 tive and efficient manner.

20 (e) CONSIDERATIONS.—In preparing the report re-
21 quired by subsection (a), the Secretary may consider the
22 following:

23 (1) The findings of the 2012 final report of the
24 Research Infrastructure Program of the Depart-
25 ment.

1 (2) Current and updated data providing the
2 most accurate and holistic presentation of the phys-
3 ical infrastructure, information technology, and
4 other relevant support function needs of the research
5 and development program of the Department.

6 (3) Such other matters as the Secretary con-
7 siders appropriate.

8 **SEC. 215. REVIEW AND REPORT ON PROVISIONS OF LAW**
9 **RELATING TO DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS**
10 **AFFAIRS CAPITAL ASSET MANAGEMENT AND**
11 **OVERSIGHT.**

12 (a) REVIEW.—The Secretary of Veterans Affairs
13 shall review all relevant authorities of the Department of
14 Veterans Affairs, including those in section 312A of title
15 38, United States Code, and determine whether the provi-
16 sions of such authorities are meaningful, relevant, and re-
17 flect the current operational needs, organization structure,
18 and all other necessary requirements for the full life-cycle
19 of effective and efficient management of capital assets.

20 (b) REPORT.—Not later than 270 days after the date
21 of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall submit
22 to Congress a report regarding whether the authorities re-
23 viewed under subsection (a) should be revised to align
24 more closely with current and future projected operational
25 needs of the Department.

1 (c) CONTENTS.—The report required by subsection
2 (b) shall include the following:

3 (1) An assessment of whether other offices, ad-
4 ministrations, or entities of the Department should
5 be directed to formally assume certain functions cur-
6 rently assigned to officials of the Department, in-
7 cluding to the Deputy Secretary, the Director of
8 Construction and Facilities Management, the Under
9 Secretary for Health, the Assistant Secretary for
10 Management, and the Chief Financial Officer, pur-
11 suant to statute or Departmental practice, so as to
12 match operational realities and needs, directives, poli-
13 cies, and procedures of the Department, to improve
14 efficiencies, streamline management and lines of au-
15 thority, responsibility, and accountability or other
16 reasons that would be beneficial to the capital asset
17 management of the Department.

18 (2) An assessment of whether capital asset
19 functions currently not clearly assumed or controlled
20 by other entities of the Department should be more
21 clearly assigned to relevant offices of the Depart-
22 ment to match operational realities and needs, direc-
23 tives, policies, and procedures of the Department, to
24 improve efficiencies, streamline management and
25 lines of authority and responsibility, or other reasons

1 that would be beneficial to the capital asset manage-
2 ment of the Department.

3 (3) Identification of whether any new offices,
4 structures, positions, or reporting lines should be
5 created or modified in the Department to improve
6 operational effectiveness, performance, and account-
7 ability for capital asset management.

8 (4) An assessment of whether a modified De-
9 partmental organizational structure and changes to
10 relevant statutory provisions could create a clearly
11 identified single line of accountability and responsi-
12 bility for the full life-cycle of capital asset manage-
13 ment activities of the Department so as to improve
14 effectiveness, efficiency, performance, and stability
15 of Departmental capital asset management.

16 (5) Specific reasons for the statutory or other
17 changes that are recommended in the report or if no
18 changes are necessary, a justification for not making
19 any changes, including a statement providing the
20 single responsible executive and office in charge of
21 managing all capital asset management activities of
22 the Department as of the date of the report.

23 (6) Identification of such legislative or adminis-
24 trative action as the Secretary determines necessary

1 to implement the changes necessary to improve cap-
2 ital asset management at the Department.

3 **SEC. 216. IMPROVING PREVENTION, DETECTION, AND RE-**
4 **PORTING OF WASTE, FRAUD, AND ABUSE IN**
5 **DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS CAP-**
6 **ITAL ASSET PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES.**

7 (a) REPORT REQUIRED.—Not later than one year
8 after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary
9 of Veterans Affairs shall submit to the appropriate com-
10 mittees of Congress a report on actions the Department
11 of Veterans Affairs is taking or plans to take to enhance
12 the ability of the Department to prevent, detect, and re-
13 port waste, fraud, and abuse occurring in capital asset
14 projects of the Department, whether by employees, con-
15 tractors, or other relevant persons or entities involved with
16 the Department.

17 (b) ELEMENTS.—The report required by subsection
18 (a) shall include the following:

19 (1) An assessment of whether new training or
20 enhancements to existing training should be under-
21 taken to improve the prevention, detection, and re-
22 porting of waste, fraud, and abuse.

23 (2) Recommendations for such legislative and
24 administrative action as the Secretary determines

1 appropriate to improve the prevention, detection,
2 and reporting of waste, fraud, and abuse.

3 (3) Such other matters the Secretary considers
4 appropriate.

5 (c) CONSULTATION.—In carrying out subsection (a),
6 the Secretary—

7 (1) shall consult with the Inspector General of
8 the Department of Veterans Affairs and the Com-
9 troller General of the United States on matters re-
10 lating to best practices and strategies to improve de-
11 tection and prevention by the Department of waste,
12 fraud, and abuse in capital asset projects and man-
13 agement; and

14 (2) may consult with such other persons and
15 entities on such matters as the Secretary considers
16 appropriate.

○