

118TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 572

To require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to provide answers to questions submitted for the record to the Secretary by members of the Committee on Veterans' Affairs of the Senate and the Committee on Veterans' Affairs of the House of Representatives within 45 business days, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

FEBRUARY 28, 2023

Mr. TILLIS (for himself, Mr. MORAN, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. ROUNDS, Mr. SULLIVAN, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. CRAMER, and Mr. TUBERVILLE) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs

A BILL

To require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to provide answers to questions submitted for the record to the Secretary by members of the Committee on Veterans' Affairs of the Senate and the Committee on Veterans' Affairs of the House of Representatives within 45 business days, 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.**

4 This Act may be cited as the "Ensuring Access to
5 Department of Veterans Affairs Information Necessary

1 for Oversight Act of 2023” or the “Ensuring Access to
2 VA INFO Act of 2023”.

3 **SEC. 2. PERIOD FOR SECRETARY OF VETERANS AFFAIRS**
4 **TO RESPOND TO QUESTIONS SUBMITTED BY**
5 **MEMBERS OF CERTAIN CONGRESSIONAL**
6 **COMMITTEES.**

7 (a) REQUIREMENT.—To the maximum extent prac-
8 ticable, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall provide an
9 answer to a question submitted for the record to the Sec-
10 retary by a member of the Committee on Veterans’ Affairs
11 of the Senate or the Committee on Veterans’ Affairs of
12 the House of Representatives on or before the date that
13 is 45 business days after the date on which the Secretary
14 receives the question.

15 (b) DELAYED RESPONSES.—

16 (1) NOTICE REQUIRED.—If the Secretary an-
17 ticipates being unable to provide an answer to a
18 question described in subsection (a) that was sub-
19 mitted to the Secretary by a member described in
20 such subsection by the date specified in such sub-
21 section, the Secretary shall, before such date, submit
22 to the member notice that the Secretary anticipates
23 being unable to provide the answer by such date.

24 (2) CONTENTS.—Notice submitted under para-
25 graph (1) shall include the following:

1 (A) A justification for the inability of the
2 Secretary to meet the deadline set forth in sub-
3 section (a).

4 (B) An estimate of when an answer will be
5 provided by the Secretary to the question sub-
6 mitted.

7 (C) A description of the steps the Sec-
8 retary needs to take in order to provide the an-
9 swer to the question submitted.

10 (c) ASSISTANCE FROM OTHER AGENCIES.—In any
11 case in which the Secretary determines that the Secretary
12 requires the assistance of the head of another Federal
13 agency in order to provide an answer to a question de-
14 scribed in subsection (a) by the date specified in such sub-
15 section and the Secretary requests such assistance from
16 such head of another Federal agency, such head of an-
17 other Federal agency shall provide the assistance re-
18 quested in a timely manner.

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