

119<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESS  
1<sup>ST</sup> SESSION

# H. R. 4114

To amend title 38, United States Code, to automatically enroll eligible veterans in the patient enrollment system of Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 24, 2025

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

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## A BILL

To amend title 38, United States Code, to automatically enroll eligible veterans in the patient enrollment system of Department of Veterans Affairs, 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 Veterans’  
5       Smooth Transition Act” or the “EVEST Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. AUTOMATIC ENROLLMENT OF ELIGIBLE VETERANS**  
2 **IN PATIENT ENROLLMENT SYSTEM OF DE-**  
3 **PARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS.**

4 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 1705 of title 38, United  
5 States Code, is amended by adding at the end the fol-  
6 lowing new subsection:

7 “(d)(1) The Secretary shall enroll each veteran de-  
8 scribed in subsection (a) in the patient enrollment system  
9 under this section not later than 60 days after receiving  
10 the information described in paragraph (2) regarding the  
11 veteran.

12 “(2) The information described in this paragraph is  
13 the information—

14 “(A) regarding a veteran that the Secretary de-  
15 termines is necessary to so enroll a veteran; and

16 “(B) transmitted to the Secretary under section  
17 1142(e) of title 10.

18 “(3) Not later than 60 days after enrolling a veteran  
19 under paragraph (1), the Secretary shall provide to the  
20 veteran—

21 “(A) notice of such enrollment;

22 “(B) instructions regarding how the veteran  
23 may opt out of such enrollment;

24 “(C) instructions regarding how the veteran  
25 may elect to enroll at a later date.

1 “(4) In carrying out paragraph (3), the Secretary  
2 shall—

3 “(A) provide a notice or instructions in the  
4 form of a physical copy delivered by mail and, to the  
5 extent practical, in the form of an electronic copy  
6 delivered by electronic mail; and

7 “(B) consider using, to the extent practical,  
8 mass texting capabilities through mobile tele-  
9 phones.”.

10 (b) APPLICABILITY.—Subsection (d) of section 1705  
11 of title 38, United States Code, as added by subsection  
12 (a), shall apply to a veteran—

13 (1) who is discharged or separated from the  
14 Armed Forces on or after the date that is 90 days  
15 before the date of the enactment of this Act; and

16 (2) with respect to whom the Secretary receives  
17 the information described in paragraph (2) of such  
18 subsection on or after the date of the enactment of  
19 this Act.

20 (c) ELECTRONIC CERTIFICATES OF ELIGIBILITY.—  
21 Not later than August 1, 2026, the Secretary of Veterans  
22 Affairs shall ensure that any veteran who is eligible for  
23 automatic enrollment in the patient enrollment system  
24 under subsection (d) of section 1705 of title 38, United

1 States Code, as added by subsection (a), is able to ac-  
2 cess—

3 (1) an electronic version of the veteran’s certifi-  
4 cate of eligibility for such enrollment; and

5 (2) an electronic mechanism by which the vet-  
6 eran may opt out of such enrollment.

7 (d) REPORT ON AUTOMATIC ENROLLMENT.—

8 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than one year  
9 after the first veteran is enrolled in the patient en-  
10 rollment system of the Department of Veterans Af-  
11 fairs under subsection (d) of section 1705 of title  
12 38, United States Code, as added by subsection (a),  
13 the Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall submit to the  
14 Committees on Veterans’ Affairs of the Senate and  
15 House of Representatives a report on the enrollment  
16 process under such subsection. Such report shall in-  
17 clude each of the following:

18 (A) A discussion of any anticipated chal-  
19 lenges that occurred in implementing such sub-  
20 section, the strategies used to address such  
21 challenges, and the effectiveness of such strate-  
22 gies.

23 (B) A discussion of any unanticipated chal-  
24 lenges that occurred in implementing such sub-  
25 section, the strategies used to address such

1 challenges, and the effectiveness of such strate-  
2 gies.

3 (C) Any additional information the Sec-  
4 retary determines appropriate, including infor-  
5 mation that may be useful to other Federal de-  
6 partments and agencies considering the imple-  
7 mentation of similar automatic enrollment pro-  
8 grams.

9 (2) FORM OF REPORT.—The report required  
10 under paragraph (1) shall be submitted in unclassi-  
11 fied form, but may include a classified annex.

12 **SEC. 3. GAO REPORT ON NOTICE OF AUTOMATIC ENROLL-**  
13 **MENT IN PATIENT ENROLLMENT SYSTEM OF**  
14 **DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS.**

15 Not later than 180 days after the date of the enact-  
16 ment of this Act, the Comptroller General of the United  
17 States shall submit to the Committees on Veterans' Af-  
18 fairs of the Senate and House of Representatives a report  
19 containing the results of a study to determine the best  
20 methods for the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to provide  
21 notice under paragraph (3) of subsection (d) of section  
22 1705 of title 38, United States Code, as added by section  
23 2. In making such determination, the Comptroller General  
24 shall consider the needs of a veteran based on—

25 (1) age;

- 1 (2) residence in an urban area; and
- 2 (3) residence in an rural area.

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