

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 6490

To direct the Secretary of Defense to establish a pilot program to provide certain members of the Armed Forces with timely and relevant information via text message, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

DECEMBER 5, 2025

Ms. HOULAHAN (for herself, Mrs. KIGGANS of Virginia, Mr. BACON, Mr. HORSFORD, Mr. WITTMAN, and Ms. GOODLANDER) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Armed Services

A BILL

To direct the Secretary of Defense to establish a pilot program to provide certain members of the Armed Forces with timely and relevant information via text message, 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. PILOT PROGRAM FOR PUSH-TEXT NOTIFICA-**
4 **TIONS TO MEMBERS AND DEPENDENTS.**

5 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—Not later than one year after
6 the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of
7 Defense shall establish a pilot program to be known as
8 the “Push-Text Initiative” (in this section referred to as

1 the “pilot program”) to provide members of the Armed
2 Forces assigned to Marine Corps Installations Pacific in
3 Okinawa, Japan, and the adult dependents of such mem-
4 bers with timely and relevant information via text mes-
5 sage.

6 (b) IMPLEMENTATION.—The pilot program shall—

7 (1) automatically enroll all eligible members of
8 the Armed Force assigned to the locations partici-
9 pating in the pilot program and the dependents of
10 such members using all available text messaging
11 contact information provided by such members; and

12 (2) provide all recipients with the ability to opt
13 out of receiving text messages under the pilot pro-
14 gram at any time.

15 (c) COVERED INFORMATION.—Text messages trans-
16 mitted under the pilot program shall include—

17 (1) information on military spouse employment
18 opportunities, career counseling, and related support
19 programs;

20 (2) updates with respect to childcare services
21 available both on and off the installation, availability
22 of child care, and child care fee assistance programs;

23 (3) information regarding general TRICARE
24 program benefits, enrollment deadlines, and other
25 health-related resources;

1 (4) notifications of changes in Department of
2 Defense policies, regulations, or Federal laws that
3 affect members or dependents of members; and

4 (5) any other information or resources that the
5 Secretary considers relevant to the well-being of
6 members and dependents of members.

7 (d) REPORT.—Not later than October 1, 2027, the
8 Secretary of Defense shall submit to the Committees on
9 Armed Services of the Senate and House of Representa-
10 tives a report on the pilot program. Such report shall in-
11 clude—

12 (1) a description of how the pilot program was
13 implemented, including the timeline, execution plan,
14 and the official managing the pilot program;

15 (2) data on participation and usage, including
16 the number of individuals automatically enrolled, the
17 opt-out rate, and the frequency and types of mes-
18 sages transmitted;

19 (3) any observed benefits or outcomes of the
20 pilot program, including feedback from participants;

21 (4) an analysis of the costs of operating the
22 pilot program and any cost savings or efficiencies
23 achieved by consolidating or scaling back other out-
24 reach efforts with respect to issues addressed by the
25 pilot program; and

1 (5) the recommendations of the Secretary with
2 respect to the feasibility and advisability of con-
3 tinuing or expanding the pilot program to the entire
4 Department of Defense, including any proposed
5 modifications to the program and an assessment of
6 the anticipated costs, resource requirements, and po-
7 tential benefits of Department-wide implementation.

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