

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 984

To amend title 38, United States Code, to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to provide timely equitable relief to an individual who suffers a loss based on an administrative error by the Secretary, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 5, 2025

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

A BILL

To amend title 38, United States Code, to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to provide timely equitable relief to an individual who suffers a loss based on an administrative error by the Secretary, 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. IMPROVEMENTS TO EQUITABLE RELIEF IN THE**
4 **CASE OF AN ADMINISTRATIVE ERROR BY THE**
5 **SECRETARY OF VETERANS AFFAIRS.**

6 (a) AFFIRMATIVE DUTY TO PROVIDE TIMELY EQUI-
7 TABLE RELIEF.—Section 503 of title 38, United States

1 Code, is amended by striking “may” both places it appears
2 and inserting “shall, not later than 120 days after such
3 determination,”.

4 (b) CANCELLATION OF DEBT COLLECTION.—Section
5 5314 of such title is amended, in subsection (a), by adding
6 at the end the following new paragraph:

7 “(3) The Secretary shall promptly cancel any agree-
8 ment, entered into by the Secretary with a debt collector
9 (as defined in section 803 of the Fair Debt Collection
10 Practices Act (15 U.S.C. 1692a)) to collect an amount of
11 indebtedness described in paragraph (1), if the Secretary
12 determines that the determination of such indebtedness
13 was in error.”.

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