

117TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 3712

To direct the Secretary of Defense to establish a pilot program to determine the effectiveness of using working dogs to detect the early stages of diseases, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 4, 2021

Mr. LIEU 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 determine the effectiveness of using working dogs to detect the early stages of diseases, 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 “COVID–19 Warrior
5 Dogs Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. PILOT PROGRAM ON USE OF WORKING DOGS TO DE-**
2 **TECT EARLY STAGES OF DISEASES.**

3 (a) PILOT PROGRAM.—Not later than 90 days after
4 the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of
5 Defense shall commence a pilot program to determine the
6 effectiveness of using scent detection working dogs to de-
7 tect the early stages of diseases (including the coronavirus
8 disease 2019 (COVID–19)) and upon detection, to alert
9 the handler of the dog. In carrying out such program, the
10 Secretary shall consider—

11 (1) potential uses for such dogs in screening in-
12 dividuals seeking to access facilities under the juris-
13 diction of the Department of Defense or seeking to
14 access locations frequently used by the public and
15 relevant to public safety; and

16 (2) any other potential uses for such dogs relat-
17 ing to the detection of early stages of diseases, in-
18 cluding uses relating to the management and provi-
19 sion of personal protective equipment and medical
20 testing kits to Department of Defense personnel.

21 (b) REGULATIONS.—The Secretary shall prescribe
22 regulations concerning the scope and limitations of the
23 pilot program under subsection (a). Such regulations shall
24 include requirements to ensure that the pilot program is
25 scientifically rigorous.

1 (c) DURATION.—The Secretary shall carry out the
2 pilot program under subsection (a) for a period of not
3 more than four years.

4 (d) REPORT.—Not later than 180 days after the date
5 on which the pilot program under subsection (a) termi-
6 nates, the Secretary shall submit to the Committees on
7 Armed Services of the House of Representatives and the
8 Senate a report on the outcomes of such pilot program.

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