

117TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 5789

To direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to improve the ability of veterans to make appointments for mental health care furnished by the Secretary.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

OCTOBER 28, 2021

Mr. STEIL (for himself and Mr. PHILLIPS) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs

A BILL

To direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to improve the ability of veterans to make appointments for mental health care furnished by the Secretary.

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 “No Veteran Falls
5 Through the Cracks Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. IMPROVEMENTS TO SCHEDULING BY VETERANS OF**
7 **MENTAL HEALTH APPOINTMENTS AT DE-**
8 **PARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS.**

9 (a) RESCHEDULING CANCELLED APPOINTMENTS.—

10 If a covered veteran cancels an appointment for mental

1 health care furnished by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs,
2 the Secretary shall seek to reschedule the appointment,
3 regardless of the method by which the veteran cancelled
4 the appointment. In seeking to reschedule such appoint-
5 ment, the Secretary shall contact the veteran by telephone.
6 If the veteran does not reschedule the appointment during
7 the first telephone call, the Secretary shall contact the vet-
8 eran at least once more by telephone to reschedule the ap-
9 pointment.

10 (b) COVERED VETERAN DEFINED.—In this section,
11 the term “covered veteran” means a veteran who is en-
12 rolled in the system of patient enrollment established
13 under section 1705(a) of title 38, United States Code.

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