

117TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 6682

To amend titles 38 and 5, United States Code, to ensure that certain employees of the Department of Veterans Affairs are subject to the same removal, demotion, and suspension policies as other employees of the Federal Government, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 9, 2022

Mr. LAMB (for himself and Mr. FITZPATRICK) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs, and in addition to the Committee on Oversight and Reform, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

A BILL

To amend titles 38 and 5, United States Code, to ensure that certain employees of the Department of Veterans Affairs are subject to the same removal, demotion, and suspension policies as other employees of the Federal Government, 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 “Protecting VA Employ-
5 ees Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. REPEAL OF SEPARATE REMOVAL, DEMOTION, AND**
2 **SUSPENSION PROCESSES FOR CERTAIN EM-**
3 **PLOYEES OF DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AF-**
4 **FAIRS.**

5 (a) REPEAL.—

6 (1) TITLE 38.—Section 714 of title 38, United
7 States Code, is amended—

8 (A) by striking subsections (a), (b), (c),
9 (d), and (g);

10 (B) by redesignating subsections (e), (f),
11 and (h) as subsections (a), (b), and (c), respec-
12 tively;

13 (C) in subsection (a), as so redesignated,
14 by striking “under subsection (a)” each place it
15 appears; and

16 (D) in subsection (c), as so redesignated—

17 (i) by striking paragraphs (3) and (4);

18 and

19 (ii) by redesignating paragraphs (5)

20 and (6) as paragraphs (3) and (4), respec-
21 tively.

22 (2) TITLE 5.—Section 4303(f) of title 5, United
23 States Code, is amended—

24 (A) in paragraph (2), by striking the
25 comma at the end and inserting “, or”;

1 (B) in paragraph (3), by striking “, or”
2 and inserting a period; and

3 (C) by striking paragraph (4).

4 (b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—Chapter 7 of title
5 38, United States Code, is amended—

6 (1) in section 719, by striking “under section
7 713, 714, or 7461 of this title” each place it appears
8 and inserting “under section 713 or 7461 of this
9 title”;

10 (2) in section 714, as amended by subsection
11 (a), by striking the section heading and inserting
12 **“Protections for whistleblowers from re-**
13 **moval, demotion, and suspension”**;

14 (3) by redesignating section 714 as section 734;

15 (4) by transferring section 734, as so redesign-
16 ated, so as to appear after section 733; and

17 (5) in the table of sections—

18 (A) by striking the item relating to section
19 714; and

20 (B) by inserting after the item relating to
21 section 733 the following new item:

“734. Protections for whistleblowers from removal, demotion, and suspension.”.

1 **SEC. 3. RESTORATION OF CERTAIN DISCIPLINARY AND**
2 **GRIEVANCE PROCEDURES FOR PERSONNEL**
3 **OF THE VETERANS HEALTH ADMINISTRA-**
4 **TION.**

5 The following provisions of title 38, United States
6 Code, are each amended to read as such provisions read
7 on the day before the date of the enactment of the Depart-
8 ment of Veterans Affairs Accountability and Whistle-
9 blower Protection Act of 2017 (Public Law 115–41):

10 (1) Section 7461(b).

11 (2) Section 7462(b).

12 (3) Section 7463(c).

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