

117TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 2082

To make certain improvements relating to the supply chain of the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 19, 2021

Mr. BOST (for himself, Mr. PAPPAS, and Mr. MANN) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs, and in addition to the Committee on Armed Services, 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

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## A BILL

To make certain improvements relating to the supply chain of the Department of Veterans Affairs, 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 “VA Supply Chain Re-

5       siliency Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS SUPPLY**  
2 **CHAIN RESILIENCY.**

3 (a) REPORT ON CRITICAL ITEMS AND REQUIRE-  
4 MENTS.—Not later than 90 days after the date of the en-  
5 actment of this Act, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs  
6 shall submit to the Committees on Veterans' Affairs of  
7 the Senate and House of Representatives a report con-  
8 taining each of the following:

9 (1) A description of the items and types of  
10 items the Secretary considers critical with respect  
11 to—

12 (A) the ongoing response to the  
13 Coronavirus 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic; and

14 (B) future epidemic, pandemic, emergency,  
15 national emergency, or natural disaster sce-  
16 narios.

17 (2) The quantities of the items described in  
18 paragraph (1) that are available, as of the date of  
19 the enactment of this Act, in inventories, emergency  
20 caches, or other emergency inventories of the De-  
21 partment of Veterans Affairs.

22 (3) The anticipated quantities of the items de-  
23 scribed in paragraph (1) that would be necessary  
24 under potential epidemic, pandemic, emergency, na-  
25 tional emergency, or natural disaster scenarios the

1 Secretary determines to be relevant for planning  
2 purposes.

3 (4) The assumptions and key planning factors  
4 used by the Secretary to identify the items, types of  
5 items, and necessary quantities of items for types of  
6 scenarios, as described in paragraphs (1) and (3).

7 (b) PARTICIPATION IN WARSTOPPER PROGRAM.—  
8 Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment  
9 of this Act, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs and the Sec-  
10 retary of Defense shall enter into an agreement to provide  
11 for the participation of the Department of Veterans Af-  
12 fairs in the program known as the “Warstopper Program”  
13 of the Defense Logistics Agency, or any successor pro-  
14 gram. Pursuant to such agreement, the Defense Logistics  
15 Agency shall—

16 (1) ensure the maintenance and stability of the  
17 items that are identified as critical in the report re-  
18 quired under subsection (a) and that the Secretary  
19 of Veterans Affairs and the Secretary of Defense de-  
20 termine are appropriate for the Warstopper Pro-  
21 gram;

22 (2) establish guidance for the participation of  
23 the Department of Veterans Affairs in the  
24 Warstopper Program that includes an identification  
25 of the items and types of items that are critical to

1 the needs of the Department of Veterans Affairs;  
2 and

3 (3) use existing contracts and agreements and  
4 enter into new contracts and agreements, as nec-  
5 essary, with manufacturers and distributors to re-  
6 serve the supply of such critical items rather than  
7 rely on holding physical inventories of such items.

8 (c) REPORT ON IMPLEMENTATION.—

9 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 270 days  
10 after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Sec-  
11 retary of Veterans Affairs shall submit to the Com-  
12 mittees on Veterans' Affairs of the Senate and  
13 House of Representatives a report on the implemen-  
14 tation of this section. Such report shall contain each  
15 the following:

16 (A) An implementation plan for the par-  
17 ticipation of the Department of Veterans Af-  
18 fairs in the Warstopper Program, including  
19 milestones and timelines for related administra-  
20 tive, contracting, and readiness activities.

21 (B) For each of the items and associated  
22 quantities identified in paragraphs (1) and (3)  
23 of subsection (a)—

24 (i) the method by which the Secretary  
25 of Veterans Affairs plans to ensure the De-

1           partment continues to have access to ade-  
2           quate quantities of such items and types of  
3           items, including in the Warstopper Pro-  
4           gram and in regional, physical inventories;  
5           and

6                   (ii) justifications for the method or  
7           methods identified under clause (i).

8           (2) UPDATES TO REPORT.—The Secretary shall  
9           update the report required under paragraph (1) on  
10          an annual basis for each of the two years following  
11          the submission of the report under paragraph (1)  
12          and submit such updates to the Committees on Vet-  
13          erans' Affairs of the Senate and House of Rep-  
14          resentatives.

15          (d) PROHIBITION ON EXCLUSIVE RELIANCE ON RE-  
16          GIONAL INVENTORIES.—The Secretary of Veterans Af-  
17          fairs shall ensure that the Department does not exclusively  
18          rely on holding regional, physical inventories of critical  
19          items in order to respond to greater than expected needs  
20          for such items during epidemic, pandemic, emergency, na-  
21          tional emergency, or natural disaster situations.

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