



HOUSE COMMITTEE ON
VETERANS' AFFAIRS
Republicans | Ranking Member Phil Roe, M.D.

H.R. 8247: The Veterans' COMPACT Act

BLUF: The Veterans' COMPACT Act would help prevent veteran suicide by increasing access to care for veterans at imminent risk of self-harm, requiring VA police officers receive suicide prevention training, encouraging veterans to engage in VA care, strengthening support for the family members of veterans transitioning out of the military and veterans with mental health disorders, examining opportunities to increase outdoor recreation programs for veterans, and analyzing gaps in programs that serve women veterans.

SUMMARY

Section 101 would create a pilot program to encourage servicemembers transitioning out of the military to share information about the challenges and stresses of transitioning and the help available to veterans and their families with their support networks.

Section 102 would require VA to submit an annual report to Congress on the Solid Start program.

Section 201 would require VA to pay for emergent suicide care in a VA medical facility or in the community for any veteran, to include a veteran with an 'Other Than Honorable' discharge, regardless of enrollment status in the VA health care system.

Section 202 would require VA to establish an education program for family members and caregivers of veterans with mental health disorders.

Section 203 would require VA to establish a Task Force on Outdoor Recreation for Veterans to make recommendations regarding the use of public lands or other outdoor spaces to facilitate veteran health and wellness.

Section 204 would require VA to contact veterans who have not received care from VA in the last two years to encourage them to receive a physical and mental health examination from their local VA medical facility or from a VA community care provider.

Section 205 would require VA police officers to receive regular suicide prevention training.

Section 301 would require VA to analyze VA programs that serve women veterans who are homeless or at-risk of becoming homeless to identify gaps in care.

Section 302 would require VA to produce an annual report on women veterans' use of the VA healthcare system.