

107TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1450

To direct the Department of Veterans Affairs to establish a new veterans benefits office in the State of Florida, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 4, 2001

Mr. FOLEY (for himself, Mr. MICA, Mrs. THURMAN, Mr. DAVIS of Florida, Mr. STEARNS, Mrs. MEEK of Florida, Mr. WEXLER, Mr. DIAZ-BALART, and Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs

A BILL

To direct the Department of Veterans Affairs to establish a new veterans benefits office in the State of Florida, 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 “Fairness for Florida’s
5 Veterans Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. ESTABLISHMENT OF NEW DEPARTMENT OF VET-**
2 **ERANS AFFAIRS VETERANS BENEFITS OF-**
3 **FICE IN THE STATE OF FLORIDA.**

4 The Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall establish a
5 second veterans benefits office in the State of Florida.

6 **SEC. 3. REPORTS ON REDUCTION IN CLAIMS BACKLOG AT**
7 **BAY PINES, FLORIDA, VETERANS BENEFITS**
8 **OFFICE.**

9 (a) NEAR-TERM REDUCTION.—Not later than 60
10 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Sec-
11 retary of Veterans Affairs shall submit to Congress a re-
12 port setting forth a detailed plan for reducing during the
13 succeeding six months the backlog of claims for benefits
14 pending at the Bay Pines, Florida, veterans benefits office
15 of the Department of Veterans Affairs.

16 (b) LONG-TERM REDUCTION.—Not later than 90
17 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Sec-
18 retary of Veterans Affairs shall submit to Congress a re-
19 port setting forth a detailed plan for a permanent reduc-
20 tion in the backlog of claims for benefits pending at the
21 Bay Pines, Florida, veterans benefits office of the Depart-
22 ment of Veterans Affairs.

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