

109<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESS  
1<sup>ST</sup> SESSION

# H. R. 1149

To direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to conduct a study of the accuracy of expiration dates on certain prescription drugs maintained by the Department of Veterans Affairs.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 8, 2005

Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs

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## A BILL

To direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to conduct a study of the accuracy of expiration dates on certain prescription drugs maintained by the Department of Veterans Affairs.

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. STUDY OF EXPIRATION DATES ON CERTAIN**  
4                                    **PRESCRIPTION DRUGS MAINTAINED BY DE-**  
5                                    **PARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS.**

6        (a) STUDY REQUIRED.—The Secretary of Veterans  
7        Affairs shall conduct a study of each candidate drug to—

1           (1) evaluate the accuracy of the expiration date  
2           for such drug;

3           (2) evaluate the feasibility of extending such ex-  
4           piration date; and

5           (3) if such extension is feasible, recommend the  
6           period of such extension.

7           (b) ASSISTANCE FROM THE FDA.—The Secretary of  
8           Veterans Affairs shall conduct the study required under  
9           subsection (a) in consultation with the Commissioner of  
10          Food and Drugs, who shall make available to the Sec-  
11          retary such records, and otherwise provide such assist-  
12          ance, as the Secretary may require for purposes of this  
13          section.

14          (c) REPORT.—The Secretary of Veterans Affairs  
15          shall submit to Congress a report providing the results of  
16          the study required under subsection (a), including an esti-  
17          mate of the cost savings that may be achieved by imple-  
18          menting the recommendations of the study. Such report  
19          shall be submitted not later than one year after the date  
20          of the enactment of this Act.

21          (d) CANDIDATE DRUG DEFINED.—The term “can-  
22          didate drug” means each pharmaceutical product—

23                 (1) that is maintained in stock by the Depart-  
24                 ment of Veterans Affairs;

1           (2) that is subject to section 503(b)(1) of the  
2           Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (21 U.S.C.  
3           353(b)(1));

4           (3) for which the Department paid \$3,000 or  
5           more for the stock of such product maintained by  
6           the Department; and

7           (4) the stock of which has an expiration date  
8           that is not less than 12 months or more than 18  
9           months before the date on which the product is to  
10          be studied under subsection (a).

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