

111TH CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

H. R. 5517

To amend title 13, United States Code, to require that the questionnaire used in a decennial census of population shall include an inquiry regarding an individual's status as a veteran, a spouse of a veteran, or a dependent of a veteran, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 10, 2010

Mr. STEARNS introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, and in addition to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs, 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 title 13, United States Code, to require that the questionnaire used in a decennial census of population shall include an inquiry regarding an individual's status as a veteran, a spouse of a veteran, or a dependent of a veteran, 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 "Every Veteran Counts
5 Act".

1 **SEC. 2. CENSUS QUESTION REGARDING STATUS AS VET-**
2 **ERAN, SPOUSE OF A VETERAN, OR DEPEND-**
3 **ENT OF A VETERAN.**

4 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 141 of title 13, United
5 States Code, is amended—

6 (1) by redesignating subsection (g) as sub-
7 section (h); and

8 (2) by inserting after subsection (f) the fol-
9 lowing:

10 “(g)(1) In conducting a decennial census under sub-
11 section (a), the Secretary shall, on each questionnaire used
12 in such census, include a question regarding whether an
13 individual is a veteran, a spouse of a veteran, or the de-
14 pendent of a veteran. Such question shall be in a checkoff
15 format.

16 “(2) In conducting any survey during the interval be-
17 tween each census of population required under subsection
18 (a), the Secretary may, on each questionnaire or form
19 used in such survey, include a question regarding whether
20 an individual is a veteran, a spouse of a veteran, or the
21 dependent of a veteran.

22 “(3) For purposes of this subsection—

23 “(A) the term ‘veteran’ has the meaning given
24 such term in section 101 of title 38; and

1 “(B) the term ‘dependent’ has the meaning
2 given such term in section 152 of the Internal Rev-
3 enue Code of 1986.”.

4 (b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by
5 subsection (a) shall apply with respect to the 2020 decen-
6 nial census of population and each decennial census there-
7 after.

8 **SEC. 3. REPORTS TO CONGRESS REGARDING USE OF POPU-**
9 **LATION AND OTHER CENSUS-RELATED DATA**
10 **BY THE DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AF-**
11 **FAIRS.**

12 Not later than 21 months after the date of a decen-
13 nial census, the Department of Veterans Affairs shall
14 transmit to Congress a report identifying the laws or pro-
15 grams administered by such Department, including the
16 specific purposes under each such law or program, for
17 which population data or any other information obtained
18 from any census, survey, or other means under title 13,
19 United States Code—

20 (1) were used by such Department during the
21 year most recently ended; and

22 (2) are being or will be used by such Depart-
23 ment during the period following the close of the
24 year most recently ended and preceding the date as

- 1 of which data from the next decennial census are ob-
- 2 tained.

○