

113<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESS  
2<sup>D</sup> SESSION

# H. R. 5349

To direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to establish a deadline for the certification of certain forms by regional offices of the Department of Veterans Affairs.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 31, 2014

Mr. LATTA (for himself, Ms. FUDGE, Mr. JOYCE, Mr. CHABOT, Mr. RYAN of Ohio, and Mr. STIVERS) 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 establish a deadline for the certification of certain forms by regional offices of 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. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “VA Appeals Backlog  
5 Relief Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. DEADLINE FOR CERTIFICATION OF APPEALS**  
2 **FORMS BY REGIONAL OFFICES OF THE DE-**  
3 **PARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS.**

4 The Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall take such  
5 steps as may be necessary to ensure that when a regional  
6 office of the Department of Veterans Affairs receives a  
7 form known as “VA Form 9, Appeal to Board of Veterans’  
8 Appeals”, or any successor form, submitted by a veteran  
9 to appeal a decision relating to a claim, the regional office  
10 certifies such form by not later than one year after the  
11 date of the receipt of the form.

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