

116TH CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

H. R. 6493

To amend title 38, United States Code, to improve the ability of veterans to access and submit disability benefit questionnaire forms of the Department of Veterans Affairs.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 14, 2020

Mr. BARR introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs

A BILL

To amend title 38, United States Code, to improve the ability of veterans to access and submit disability benefit questionnaire forms 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 “Veterans Benefits
5 Fairness and Transparency Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. PUBLICATION AND ACCEPTANCE OF DISABILITY**
2 **BENEFIT QUESTIONNAIRE FORMS OF DE-**
3 **PARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS.**

4 Section 5101 of title 38, United States Code, is
5 amended—

6 (1) by redesignating subsection (d) as sub-
7 section (e); and

8 (2) by inserting after subsection (c) the fol-
9 lowing new subsection (d):

10 “(d)(1) The Secretary shall publish in a central loca-
11 tion on the internet website of the Department the dis-
12 ability benefit questionnaire form, or such successor form
13 relating to private medical providers submitting evidence
14 regarding a disability of a claimant.

15 “(2) Subject to section 6103 of this title, if the Sec-
16 retary modifies the form described in paragraph (1), the
17 Secretary shall accept the previous version of the form
18 filed by a claimant if—

19 “(A) the claimant files such form during the
20 one-year period following the date of such modifica-
21 tion; and

22 “(B) the form is signed and dated by the pri-
23 vate medical provider and is otherwise complete and
24 valid.”.