

117TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1510

To direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to submit to Congress a report on the use of cameras in medical centers of the Department of Veterans Affairs.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 2, 2021

Mr. MCKINLEY (for himself, Mr. TRONE, Mr. MOONEY, Mrs. MILLER of West Virginia, Mr. RESCHENTHALER, and Mr. BOST) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs

A BILL

To direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to submit to Congress a report on the use of cameras in medical centers 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. REPORT ON USE OF CAMERAS IN MEDICAL**
4 **CENTERS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF VET-**
5 **ERANS AFFAIRS.**

6 (a) REPORT REQUIRED.—The Secretary of Veterans
7 Affairs, in collaboration with the Office of Operations, Se-
8 curity, and Preparedness of the Department of Veterans
9 Affairs, the Veterans Health Administration, and the Of-

1 fice of Construction and Facilities Management of the De-
2 partment, shall submit to the Committees on Veterans' Af-
3 fairs of the Senate and the House of Representatives a
4 report analyzing the policies, use, and maintenance of
5 cameras deployed by the Department for patient safety
6 and law enforcement at medical centers of the Depart-
7 ment.

8 (b) ELEMENTS.—The report required by subsection
9 (a) shall include the following:

10 (1) A comprehensive review of the policies and
11 procedures of the Department regarding the use and
12 maintenance of cameras with respect to the fol-
13 lowing:

14 (A) Patient safety, including—

15 (i) an analysis of how cameras are
16 used to monitor staff and patients;

17 (ii) an analysis of the specific units
18 within medical centers in which the use of
19 cameras is prioritized to protect patient
20 safety;

21 (iii) an analysis of the procedures re-
22 garding the positioning of cameras; and

23 (iv) an analysis of the extent to which
24 cameras monitor locations where drugs are
25 stored to ensure that drugs are accounted

1 for, and an assessment of whether this is
2 a widely used practice.

3 (B) Law enforcement of medical centers of
4 the Department, including—

5 (i) how exterior cameras are used;

6 (ii) how interior cameras are used;

7 and

8 (iii) an analysis of locations, interior
9 and exterior, in which camera use is
10 prioritized.

11 (2) Recommendations of the Secretary to im-
12 prove patient safety and law enforcement, includ-
13 ing—

14 (A) the placement and maintenance of
15 cameras;

16 (B) the storage of data from such cameras;

17 (C) the authority of supervisors at medical
18 centers of the Department to review recordings
19 from cameras;

20 (D) the number of staff required to mon-
21 itor live footage from cameras at each medical
22 center of the Department;

23 (E) the funding necessary to address
24 shortfalls with respect to cameras and the spe-
25 cific uses for such funding; and

1 (F) such other matters the Secretary de-
2 termines appropriate.

3 (c) DEADLINE.—The Secretary shall submit the re-
4 port required by this section not later than one year after
5 the date of enactment of this Act.

6 (d) CAMERA DEFINED.—In this section, the term
7 “camera” means any video camera used in a medical cen-
8 ter of the Department of Veterans Affairs for purposes
9 of patient safety or law enforcement.

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