

117TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# S. 894

To identify and refer members of the Armed Forces with a health care occupation who are separating from the Armed Forces for potential employment with the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes.

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MARCH 23, 2021

Mr. BRAUN (for himself and Ms. HASSAN) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs

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## A BILL

To identify and refer members of the Armed Forces with a health care occupation who are separating from the Armed Forces for potential employment with the Department of Veterans Affairs, 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 “Hire Veteran Health  
5 Heroes Act of 2021”.

1 **SEC. 2. IDENTIFICATION AND REFERRAL OF MEMBERS OF**  
2 **THE ARMED FORCES WITH A HEALTH CARE**  
3 **OCCUPATION FOR POTENTIAL EMPLOYMENT**  
4 **WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AF-**  
5 **FAIRS DURING SEPARATION FROM THE**  
6 **ARMED FORCES.**

7 (a) IDENTIFICATION.—The Secretary of Veterans Af-  
8 fairs, in consultation with the Secretary of Defense, shall  
9 identify members of the Armed Forces in a health care  
10 occupation during the separation of such members from  
11 the Armed Forces.

12 (b) REFERRAL OF INTERESTED INDIVIDUALS.—

13 (1) IN GENERAL.—If a member of the Armed  
14 Forces identified under subsection (a) expresses an  
15 interest in working in a health care occupation with-  
16 in the Department of Veterans Affairs, the Sec-  
17 retary of Veterans Affairs shall refer the member to  
18 a recruiter of the Department for consideration of  
19 open positions in the specialty and geography of in-  
20 terest of the member.

21 (2) TIMING.—Any referral of a member of the  
22 Armed Forces conducted under paragraph (1) shall  
23 be made not earlier than one year before the separa-  
24 tion of the member from the Armed Forces.

25 (c) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Any identification of  
26 a member of the Armed Forces under subsection (a) or

1 referral of such member under subsection (b) shall not be  
2 construed as a guarantee of employment of such member  
3 with the Department of Veterans Affairs.

4 (d) REPORTS.—Not later than each of one year and  
5 two years after the date of the enactment of this Act, the  
6 Secretary of Veterans Affairs, in consultation with the  
7 Secretary of Defense, shall submit to the appropriate com-  
8 mittees of Congress a report on the efficacy of the identi-  
9 fication and referral of separating members of the Armed  
10 Forces under this section.

11 (e) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

12 (1) APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES OF CON-  
13 GRESS.—The term “appropriate committees of Con-  
14 gress” means—

15 (A) the Committee on Armed Services and  
16 the Committee on Veterans’ Affairs of the Sen-  
17 ate; and

18 (B) the Committee on Armed Services and  
19 the Committee on Veterans’ Affairs of the  
20 House of Representatives.

21 (2) HEALTH CARE OCCUPATION.—The term  
22 “health care occupation” means an occupation for  
23 which an individual may be appointed for employ-

1        ment with the Department of Veterans Affairs under  
2        section 7401 of title 38, United States Code.

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