

**AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE
TO H.R. 1823
OFFERED BY MR. BERGMAN OF MICHIGAN**

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

1 SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

2 This Act may be cited as the “VA Budget Shortfall
3 Accountability Act”.

**4 SECTION 2. FUNDING SHORTFALLS IN CERTAIN ADMINIS-
5 TRATIONS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF VET-
6 ERANS AFFAIRS: REVIEWS; REPORTS.**

7 (a) FIRST GAO REVIEW.—

8 (1) REVIEW REQUIRED.—Not later than 30
9 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the
10 Comptroller General of the United States shall begin
11 a review regarding the circumstances surrounding,
12 and the causes of—

13 (A) the shortfall in the funding of the Vet-
14 erans Benefits Administration for fiscal year
15 2024; and

16 (B) the expected shortfall in the funding of
17 the Veterans Health Administration in fiscal
18 year 2025.

1 (2) ELEMENTS.—The review under this sub-
2 section shall include the following elements:

3 (A) A comparison of monthly obligations
4 and expenditures in relevant accounts against
5 the spending plan of the Department of Vet-
6 erans Affairs.

7 (B) Any transfers between accounts de-
8 scribed in subparagraph (A).

9 (C) The reasons for any significant diver-
10 sions of obligations or expenditures from such
11 spending plan.

12 (D) An analysis of the accuracy of any
13 projections or estimates relevant to diversions
14 described in subparagraph (C).

15 (E) Remedial actions the Secretary of Vet-
16 erans Affairs may take—

17 (i) to improve the accuracy of sup-
18 porting information submitted under sec-
19 tion 1105(a) of title 31, United States
20 Code, with respect to the Department; and

21 (ii) to prevent funding shortfalls for
22 the Department.

23 (3) REPORT.—Not later than 30 days after
24 completing such review, the Comptroller General
25 shall submit to the Secretary of Veterans Affairs a

1 written report containing the results and findings of
2 such review.

3 (b) SUBSEQUENT GAO REVIEWS.—In each of the
4 five calendar years following the date of the enactment of
5 this Act, the Comptroller General shall conduct a review
6 including the elements described in subsection (a)(2), and
7 submit a report described in subsection (a)(3), regarding
8 the funding of the Department of Veterans Affairs for the
9 most recent fiscal year to end before the date of such re-
10 view.

11 (c) REPORTS OF THE SECRETARY OF VETERANS AF-
12 FAIRS.—Not later than 30 days after the Secretary of Vet-
13 erans Affairs receives a report of the Comptroller General
14 under subsection (a) or (b), the Secretary shall submit
15 such report to—

16 (1) the Committees on Veterans' Affairs of the
17 House of Representatives and the Senate; and

18 (2) the Committees on Appropriations of the
19 House of Representatives and the Senate.

