

# Veterans Health Care Budget Reform and Transparency Act of 2009

## Public Law 111-81

(H.R. 1016)

**Title:** To amend title 38, United States Code, to provide advance appropriations authority for certain medical care accounts of the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes.

**Mr. Filner** of California introduced H.R. 1016 on February 12, 2009.

### **Public Law 111-81 will:**

1. Amend title 31 to require the inclusion of additional budget estimates for certain VA accounts for the fiscal year following the fiscal year for which the budget is submitted.
2. Amend title 38 to provide authority for advance appropriations; to require the VA to provide additional detailed budget estimates in support of advance appropriations for certain VA accounts in the annual information it provides to Congress in support of the VA's budget request.; and to require an annual report of the sufficiency of resources for the provision of medical care services for the upcoming fiscal year.
3. Require the Government Accountability Office (GAO) to conduct a study regarding the adequacy and accuracy of the budget projections made by the VA's Enrollee Health Care Projection Model.

**Effective Date:** Date of enactment.

**Cost:** Preliminary cost estimate from CBO estimates that implementation of H.R. 1016 would be \$183.573 billion over five years in discretionary spending.

### **Legislative History:**

- April 29, 2009: Hearing held by the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.
- June 10, 2009: Ordered reported, as amended, by the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.
- June 19, 2009: Reported, as amended, H. Rept. 111-171.
- June 23, 2009: Passed the House by the Yeas and Nays: 409-1 (Roll No. 420)
- Aug. 6, 2009: Senate struck all after the Enacting Clause and substituted the language of S. 423. Passed by Unanimous Consent.
- Oct. 8, 2009: House agreed to Senate amendment with an amendment pursuant to H.Res. 804.
- Oct. 13, 2009: Senate agreed to House amendment to Senate amendment by Unanimous Consent.
- Oct. 22, 2009: Signed by the President. P.L. 111-81.