

Summary of H.R. 2302, as amended
Notification to Congress of conferences sponsored by the
Department of Veterans Affairs

Title: A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to notify Congress of conferences sponsored by the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes.

Mr. Stutzman introduced H.R. 2302 on June 22, 2011.

H.R. 2302, as amended, would:

- Require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to notify and submit a cost estimate to Congress at least 180 days before a conference or meeting sponsored by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs (VA) that would cost the VA at least \$5,000 and is attended by 20 or more individuals.
- Require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to submit a quarterly report to Congress of certain covered conferences sponsored by the VA that would cost the VA at least \$20,000 and is attended by 50 or more individuals.
- Deem the submission of information by the VA to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs of either the House of Representatives or the Senate in response to a request by the chairman or ranking member (or designee) of such Committees or of a subcommittee such to be: (1) a covered disclosure of certain records maintained on individuals submitted without the written request or prior written consent of the individual to whom the record pertains; and (2) a permitted disclosure under regulations promulgated under specified provisions of the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996, including certain authorized oversight activities. Direct the Secretary, when responding to a request for information by such a member other than a chairman, to also submit such information to the relevant House or Senate Committee chairman.
- Direct the Secretary of Labor to establish and maintain an Internet website to publicly disclose information concerning the number of veterans employed under federal contracts of \$100,000 or more for the procurement of personal property and non-personal services.

Effective Date: Date of enactment.

Legislative History:

- Jul. 7, 2011: Legislative hearing held by the Subcommittee on Economic Opportunity.
- Jul. 21, 2011: Ordered reported by the Subcommittee on Economic Opportunity.
- Sept. 8, 2011: Full Committee Markup – ordered reported to the House.
- Oct. 5, 2011: Reported by the Committee, H. Rept. 112-236.
- Oct. 11, 2011: House agreed to suspend the rules and pass the bill by voice vote.