

AMENDMENT TO RULES COMMITTEE PRINT 117-

54

OFFERED BY MR. PERRY OF PENNSYLVANIA

At the end of title LI, insert the following:

1 **SEC. 51__ . PROVISION OF ACCESS TO DEPARTMENT OF**
2 **VETERANS AFFAIRS CASE-TRACKING INFOR-**
3 **MATION.**

4 (a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 59 of title 38, United
5 States Code, is amended by adding at the end the fol-
6 lowing new section:

7 **“§ 5907. Access of certain congressional employees to**
8 **veteran records**

9 “(a) IN GENERAL.—(1) The Secretary shall provide
10 to each veteran who submits a claim for benefits under
11 the laws administered by the Secretary an opportunity to
12 permit a covered congressional employee employed in the
13 office of the Member of Congress representing the district
14 where the veteran resides to have access to all of the
15 records of the veteran in the databases of the Veterans
16 Benefits Administration.

17 “(2) Notwithstanding any other provision of law,
18 upon receipt of permission from the veteran under para-
19 graph (1), the Secretary shall provide read-only access to

1 such records to such a covered congressional employee in
2 a manner that does not allow such employee to modify
3 the data contained in such records or in any part of a
4 database of the Veterans Benefits Administration.

5 “(3) A Member of Congress may designate not more
6 than two employees of the Member as covered congress-
7 sional employees.

8 “(b) COVERED CONGRESSIONAL EMPLOYEES.—(1)
9 In this section, a covered congressional employee is a per-
10 manent, full-time employee of a Member of Congress—

11 “(A) whose responsibilities include assisting the
12 constituents of the Member with issues regarding de-
13 partments or agencies of the Federal Government;

14 “(B) who satisfies the criteria required by the
15 Secretary for recognition as an agent or attorney
16 under this chapter; and

17 “(C) who is designated by a Member of Con-
18 gress as a covered congressional employee for pur-
19 poses of this section.

20 “(2) The Secretary may not impose any requirement
21 other than the requirements under paragraph (1) before
22 treating an employee as a covered congressional employee
23 for purposes of this section.

1 “(c) NONRECOGNITION.—A covered congressional
2 employee may not be recognized as an agent or attorney
3 under this chapter.

4 “(d) LIMITATION ON USE OF FUNDS.—None of the
5 amounts made available to carry out this section may be
6 used to design, develop, or administer any training for
7 purposes of providing training to covered congressional
8 employees.

9 “(e) NO AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—No
10 additional funds are authorized to be appropriated to
11 carry out this section. This section may only be carried
12 out using amounts otherwise authorized to be appro-
13 priated, of which, during the period of fiscal years 2023
14 through 2026, not more than \$10,000,000 may be obli-
15 gated or expended for such purpose.

16 “(f) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

17 “(1) The term ‘database of the Veterans Bene-
18 fits Administration’ means any database of the Vet-
19 erans Benefits Administration in which the records
20 of veterans relating to claims for benefits under the
21 laws administered by the Secretary are retained, in-
22 cluding information regarding medical records, com-
23 pensation and pension exams records, rating deci-
24 sions, statements of the case, supplementary state-

1 ments of the case, notices of disagreement, Form–
2 9, and any successor form.

3 “(2) The term ‘Member of Congress’ means a
4 Representative, a Senator, a Delegate to Congress,
5 or the Resident Commissioner of Puerto Rico.”.

6 (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections
7 at the beginning of such chapter is amended by adding
8 at the end the following new item:

“5907. Access of certain congressional employees to veteran records.”.

