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(Original Signature of Member)

117TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. _____

To direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to submit to Congress a report on the use of cameras in medical centers of the Department of Veterans Affairs.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

M____. _____ introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on _____

A BILL

To direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to submit to Congress a report on the use of cameras in medical centers of the Department of Veterans Affairs.

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. REPORT ON USE OF CAMERAS IN MEDICAL**
4 **CENTERS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF VET-**
5 **ERANS AFFAIRS.**

6 (a) REPORT REQUIRED.—The Secretary of Veterans
7 Affairs, in collaboration with the Office of Operations, Se-
8 curity, and Preparedness of the Department of Veterans

1 Affairs, the Veterans Health Administration, and the Of-
2 fice of Construction and Facilities Management of the De-
3 partment, shall submit to the Committees on Veterans' Af-
4 fairs of the Senate and the House of Representatives a
5 report analyzing the policies, use, and maintenance of
6 cameras deployed by the Department for patient safety
7 and law enforcement at medical centers of the Depart-
8 ment.

9 (b) ELEMENTS.—The report required by subsection
10 (a) shall include the following:

11 (1) A comprehensive review of the policies and
12 procedures of the Department regarding the use and
13 maintenance of cameras with respect to the fol-
14 lowing:

15 (A) Patient safety, including—

16 (i) an analysis of how cameras are
17 used to monitor staff and patients;

18 (ii) an analysis of the specific units
19 within medical centers in which the use of
20 cameras is prioritized to protect patient
21 safety;

22 (iii) an analysis of the procedures re-
23 garding the positioning of cameras; and

24 (iv) an analysis of the extent to which
25 cameras monitor locations where drugs are

1 stored to ensure that drugs are accounted
2 for, and an assessment of whether this is
3 a widely used practice.

4 (B) Law enforcement of medical centers of
5 the Department, including—

6 (i) how exterior cameras are used;

7 (ii) how interior cameras are used;

8 and

9 (iii) an analysis of locations, interior
10 and exterior, in which cameras use is
11 prioritized.

12 (2) Recommendations of the Secretary to im-
13 prove patient safety and law enforcement, includ-
14 ing—

15 (A) the placement and maintenance of
16 cameras;

17 (B) the storage of data from such cameras;

18 (C) the authority of supervisors at medical
19 centers of the Department to review recordings
20 from cameras;

21 (D) the number of staff required to mon-
22 itor live footage from cameras at each medical
23 center of the Department;

1 (E) the funding necessary to address
2 shortfalls with respect to cameras and the spe-
3 cific uses for such funding; and

4 (F) such other matters the Secretary de-
5 termines appropriate.

6 (c) DEADLINE.—The Secretary shall submit the re-
7 port required by this section not later than one year after
8 the date of enactment of this Act.

9 (d) CAMERA DEFINED.—In this section, the term
10 “camera” means any video camera used in a medical cen-
11 ter of the Department of Veterans Affairs for purposes
12 of patient safety or law enforcement.