

VetPAC Act of 2024 - One-Pager Summary

VetPAC Act of 2024: To amend title 38 of the United States Code and establish a commission to review the Veterans Health Administration (VHA) and provide reports to Congress.

The **VetPAC Act** creates a new *Veterans Health Administration Policy Advisory Commission* (VetPAC) to review the operations of the Veterans Health Administration and submit reports and recommendations to Congress. This independent commission will focus on improving health care delivery and addressing the challenges within the VHA.

- **Establishment of the Veterans Health Administration Policy Advisory Commission:**
 - A 17-member commission appointed by the Comptroller General.
 - Members will include experts from large medical systems, with at least two veterans as part of the commission
 - Members will serve five-year terms, with staggered appointments.
 - **Core Responsibilities:**
 - Conduct regular reviews of the VHA's operations and provide reports to Congress.
 - Review policies and their impact on veterans' health care services and the overall functioning of the VHA.
 - **Review Topics:**
 - IT infrastructure, including electronic health records.
 - Referrals to care under the Veterans Community Care Program.
 - Access and wait times for primary and specialty care.
 - Workforce recruitment and retention issues.
 - Patient satisfaction and the quality of care provided.
 - **Consultation and Additional Reviews:**
 - The Commission may conduct special studies as requested by Congress.
 - Reports from the VHA or its Inspector General will be reviewed for any relevant recommendations to improve veteran care.
 - The Commission will assess the budget implications of any proposed recommendations before submission to Congress.
 - It can request data and research assistance from federal agencies to perform its duties.
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Purpose:

The **VetPAC Act of 2024** aims to create a transparent, expert-driven review process for the VHA. By conducting regular assessments and reporting to Congress, the Act seeks to enhance the quality and efficiency of healthcare services provided to veterans, ensuring that critical areas such as technology, staffing, and patient care are continuously improved.