

110TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. _____

To direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to conduct a study on suicides among veterans.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

Mr. HARKIN (for himself and Mr. FEINGOLD) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on

A BILL

To direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to conduct a study on suicides among veterans.

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. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Veterans Suicide Study
5 Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 Congress makes the following findings:

8 (1) Suicide among the veteran population is a
9 serious problem.

1 (2) There is lack of information on the number
2 of veterans who die by suicide each year.

3 **SEC. 3. STUDY ON SUICIDES AMONG VETERANS.**

4 (a) **STUDY REQUIRED.**—The Secretary of Veterans
5 Affairs shall conduct a study to determine the number of
6 veterans who died by suicide between January 1, 1997,
7 and the date of the enactment of this Act.

8 (b) **COORDINATION.**—In carrying out the study under
9 subsection (a) the Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall co-
10 ordinate with—

11 (1) the Secretary of Defense;

12 (2) Veterans Service Organizations;

13 (3) the Centers for Disease Control and Preven-
14 tion; and

15 (4) State public health offices and veterans
16 agencies.

17 (c) **REPORT TO CONGRESS.**—Not later than 180 days
18 after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary
19 of Veterans Affairs shall submit to Congress a report on
20 the study required under subsection (a) and the findings
21 of the Secretary.

22 (d) **AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**—There
23 are authorized to be appropriated such sums as may be
24 necessary to carry out this Act.