

**AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE  
TO H.R. 2302  
OFFERED BY MR. STUTZMAN OF INDIANA**

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

1 **SECTION 1. QUARTERLY REPORTS TO CONGRESS ON CON-**  
2 **FERENCES SPONSORED BY THE DEPART-**  
3 **MENT.**

4 (a) IN GENERAL.—Subchapter I of chapter 5 of title  
5 38, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end  
6 the following new section:

7 **“§ 517. Quarterly reports to Congress on conferences**  
8 **sponsored by the Department**

9 “(a) QUARTERLY REPORTS REQUIRED.—Not later  
10 than 30 days after the end of each fiscal quarter, the Sec-  
11 retary shall submit to the Committee on Veterans’ Affairs  
12 of the House of Representatives and the Committee on  
13 Veterans’ Affairs of the Senate a report on covered con-  
14 ferences.

15 “(b) MATTERS INCLUDED.—Each report under sub-  
16 section (a) shall include the following:

17 “(1) An accounting of the final costs to the De-  
18 partment of each covered conference occurring dur-

1       ing the fiscal quarter preceding the date on which  
2       the report is submitted, including the costs related  
3       to—

4               “(A) transportation and parking;

5               “(B) per diem payments;

6               “(C) lodging;

7               “(D) rental of halls, auditoriums, or other  
8       spaces;

9               “(E) rental of equipment;

10              “(F) refreshments;

11              “(G) entertainment;

12              “(H) contractors; and

13              “(I) brochures or other printed media.

14              “(2) The total estimated costs to the Depart-  
15       ment for covered conferences occurring during the  
16       fiscal quarter in which the report is submitted.

17       “(c) COVERED CONFERENCE DEFINED.—In this sec-  
18       tion, the term ‘covered conference’ means a conference,  
19       meeting, or other similar forum that is sponsored or co-  
20       sponsored by the Department of Veterans Affairs and is—

21              “(1) attended by 50 or more individuals, includ-  
22       ing one or more employees of the Department; or

23              “(2) estimated to cost the Department at least  
24       \$20,000.”.

1 (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections  
2 at the beginning of such chapter is amended by adding  
3 after the item relating to section 516 the following:

“517. Quarterly reports to Congress on conferences sponsored by the Department.”.

4 **SEC. 2. SUBMISSION OF CERTAIN INFORMATION BY THE**  
5 **SECRETARY OF VETERANS AFFAIRS.**

6 (a) IN GENERAL.—Subchapter II of chapter 5 of title  
7 38, United States Code, is amended by inserting after section  
8 529 the following new section:

9 **“§ 529A. Submission of certain information by the**  
10 **Secretary to Congress**

11 “(a) IN GENERAL.—The submission of information  
12 by the Secretary to the Committee on Veterans’ Affairs  
13 of the House of Representatives or the Committee on Veterans’  
14 Affairs of the Senate in response to a request for  
15 such information made by a covered member of the committee  
16 shall be deemed to be—

17 “(1) a covered disclosure under section  
18 552a(b)(9) of title 5; and

19 “(2) a permitted disclosure under regulations  
20 promulgated under section 264(c) of the Health Insurance  
21 Portability and Accountability Act of 1996  
22 (Public Law 104–191), including a permitted disclosure  
23 for oversight activities authorized by law as de-

1 scribed in section 164.512(d) of title 45, Code of  
2 Federal Regulations.

3 “(b) SUBMISSION TO CHAIRMAN.—With respect to a  
4 request for information described in subsection (a) made  
5 by a covered member of the committee who is not the  
6 chairman, the Secretary shall also submit such informa-  
7 tion to the chairman of the Committee on Veterans’ Af-  
8 fairs of the House of Representatives or the Committee  
9 on Veterans’ Affairs of the Senate, as the case may be.

10 “(c) COVERED MEMBER OF THE COMMITTEE.—In  
11 this section, the term ‘covered member of the committee’  
12 means the following:

13 “(1) The chairman or ranking member of the  
14 Committee on Veterans’ Affairs of the House of  
15 Representatives or the Committee on Veterans’ Af-  
16 fairs of the Senate.

17 “(2) A chairman or ranking member of a sub-  
18 committee of the Committee on Veterans’ Affairs of  
19 the House of Representatives or the Committee on  
20 Veterans’ Affairs of the Senate.

21 “(3) The designee of a chairman or ranking  
22 member described in paragraph (1) or (2).”.

23 (b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The table of sec-  
24 tions at the beginning of such chapter is amended by in-

1 serting after the item relating to section 529 the following  
2 new item:

“529A. Submission of certain information by the Secretary.”.

3 **SEC. 3. PUBLICATION OF DATA ON EMPLOYMENT OF CER-**  
4 **TAIN VETERANS BY FEDERAL CONTRACTORS.**

5 Section 4212(d) of title 38, United States Code, is  
6 amended by adding at the end the following new para-  
7 graph:

8 “(3) The Secretary of Labor shall establish and  
9 maintain an Internet website on which the Secretary shall  
10 publicly disclose the information reported to the Secretary  
11 of Labor by contractors under paragraph (1).”.

Amend the title so as to read: “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.”.

