

[118H5794]

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(Original Signature of Member)

119TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

**H. R.** \_\_\_\_\_

To amend title 38, United States Code, to eliminate conflicts of interest in conduct of quality management and administrative investigations by the Veterans Health Administration, and for other purposes.

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**IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

Mrs. DINGELL introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
**A BILL**

To amend title 38, United States Code, to eliminate conflicts of interest in conduct of quality management and administrative investigations by the Veterans Health Administration, and for other purposes.

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 Affairs Peer  
5       Review Neutrality Act of 2025”.

1 **SEC. 2. ELIMINATION OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST IN PEER**  
2 **REVIEW, ADMINISTRATIVE INVESTIGATION**  
3 **BOARDS, AND FACTFINDINGS OF VETERANS**  
4 **HEALTH ADMINISTRATION.**

5 (a) IN GENERAL.—Subchapter II of chapter 73 of  
6 title 38, United States Code, is amended by inserting after  
7 section 7311A the following new section:

8 **“§ 7311B. Elimination of conflicts of interest in peer**  
9 **review, administrative investigation**  
10 **boards, and factfindings of Veterans**  
11 **Health Administration**

12 “(a) PEER REVIEW.—

13 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Each individual responsible  
14 for conducting peer review for quality management  
15 of care provided by a health care provider at a med-  
16 ical facility of the Department and each member of  
17 a peer review committee with respect to quality man-  
18 agement of such care shall withdraw from participa-  
19 tion in a case review if—

20 “(A) the individual has direct involvement  
21 with the care under review; or

22 “(B) the individual is unable to conduct an  
23 objective, impartial, accurate, and informed re-  
24 view.

25 “(2) NEUTRAL ASSESSMENT OF CONDUCT OF  
26 COMMITTEE MEMBERS.—Each medical facility of the

1 Department shall develop procedures and guidelines  
2 for that facility to require that any initial peer re-  
3 view for quality management that is conducted with  
4 respect to care provided by a health care provider  
5 who is a member of the peer review committee for  
6 that facility be evaluated, discussed, and assigned a  
7 final level review by a neutral peer review committee  
8 at another facility of the Department.

9 “(b) ADMINISTRATIVE INVESTIGATION BOARDS AND  
10 FACTFINDINGS.—

11 “(1) KNOWLEDGE OF CONFIDENTIAL INFORMA-  
12 TION.—Individuals with knowledge of confidential  
13 quality assurance information specific to a matter  
14 under investigation by an administrative investiga-  
15 tion board or factfinder with respect to quality man-  
16 agement of care provided by a health care provider  
17 at a medical facility of the Department may not—

18 “(A) serve on the administrative investiga-  
19 tion board or as a factfinder; or

20 “(B) disclose such information to an ad-  
21 ministrative investigation board or a factfinder.

22 “(2) PERSONAL INTEREST, INVOLVEMENT, OR  
23 RELATIONSHIP.—

24 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall  
25 ensure that each member of an administrative

1           investigative board or factfinder does not  
2           have—

3 “(i) any personal interest or other  
4 bias concerning the investigation being  
5 conducted;

6 “(ii) direct involvement in matters  
7 being investigated; or

8 “(iii) a supervisory or personal rela-  
9 tionship with the subject of the investiga-  
10 tion.

“(B) RECUSAL.—If a potential member of an administrative investigative board or factfinder has a personal interest or other bias concerning the investigation being conducted, direct involvement in matters being investigated, or a supervisory or personal relationship with the subject of the investigation, the potential member shall inform the authority responsible for the investigation and recuse themselves from such matter.”.

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections at the beginning of such subchapter is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 7311A the following new item:

“7311B. Elimination of conflicts of interest in peer review, administrative investigation boards, and factfindings of Veterans Health Administration.”.