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Legislative Alert: The Consolidating Veteran Employment Services for Improved Performance Act of 2012 (H.R. 4072)

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Legislative Alert: The Consolidating Veteran Employment Services for Improved Performance Act of 2012 (H.R. 4072)

Abstract

[Excerpt] On behalf of the AFL-CIO, I am writing to urge you to oppose H.R. 4072, the Consolidating Veteran Employment Services for Improved Performance Act of 2012. This legislation would transfer the Veterans Employment and Training Service (VETS) from the Department of Labor (DOL) to the Veterans Administration (VA).

Keywords

AFL-CIO, Legislative Alert, The Consolidating Veteran Employment Services for Improved Performance Act of 2012, H.R. 4072

Comments

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815 SIXTEENTH STREET, N.W.
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RICHARD L. TRUMKA
PRESIDENT

ELIZABETH H. SHULER
SECRETARY-TREASURER

ARLENE HOLT BAKER
EXECUTIVE VICE-PRESIDENT

LEGISLATIVE ALERT!

(202) 637-5057



April 19, 2012

The Honorable Jefferson B. Miller, Chairman
Committee on Veteran's Affairs
335 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Robert Filner, Ranking Minority Member
Committee on Veteran's Affairs
335 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Miller and Ranking Minority Member Filner:

On behalf of the AFL-CIO, I am writing to urge you to oppose H.R. 4072, the Consolidating Veteran Employment Services for Improved Performance Act of 2012. This legislation would transfer the Veterans Employment and Training Service (VETS) from the Department of Labor (DOL) to the Veterans Administration (VA).

VETS has established a level of expertise in job training and placement that would take years to duplicate at the VA. Drawing on DOL's vast experience in this area, VETS has a proven track record in skills assessment, individual job counseling, labor market data, classroom or on-the-job training, skills upgrading and retraining and placement services. Especially in an era of tight resources, it makes no sense to saddle the VA with a new and complicated mission. The tens of thousands of veterans who are now returning from Middle East battlefields surely deserve better.

The VA continues to be beset by the challenge of the increasingly massive disability claims backlog. The AFL-CIO is fearful that any attempt to integrate Veteran's programs into VA would negatively compromise the main mission of the VA – veteran healthcare. This legislation cannot be considered a magic bullet and there is no reason to believe that it will substantively improve employment services.

Again, the AFL-CIO urges you to oppose H.R. 4072, the Consolidating Veteran Employment Services for Improved Performance Act of 2012. Thank you in advance for your support in this important matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "William Samuel". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "W" and a long, sweeping underline.

William Samuel, Director
GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT