

119TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 7319

To amend title 38, United States Code, to authorize the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to recoup amounts of awards, bonuses, and relocation expenses paid to former employees of the Department of Veterans Affairs under certain conditions.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 2, 2026

Mr. SELF (for himself and Mr. CISCOMANI) introduced the following bill;
which was referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs

A BILL

To amend title 38, United States Code, to authorize the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to recoup amounts of awards, bonuses, and relocation expenses paid to former employees of the Department of Veterans Affairs under certain conditions.

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 “VA Bonus and Reloca-
5 tion Recovery Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. AUTHORITY TO RECOUP AWARDS, BONUSES, AND**
2 **RELOCATION EXPENSES PAID TO FORMER**
3 **DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS EM-**
4 **PLOYEES UNDER CERTAIN CONDITIONS.**

5 (a) AWARDS AND BONUSES.—Section 721 of title 38,
6 United States Code, is amended—

7 (1) in subsection (a), by inserting “, or a
8 former employee of the Department,” after “an em-
9 ployee of the Department”; and

10 (2) by adding at the end the following new sub-
11 section:

12 “(c) AUTHORITY TO COLLECT FROM FORMER EM-
13 PLOYEES.—(1) If the Director upholds an order of the
14 Secretary under subsection (a) with respect to an indi-
15 vidual who is a former employee of the Department, and
16 such individual does not repay the amount of the award
17 or bonus subject to the order within 180 days after the
18 date of the final decision of the Director under subsection
19 (b) with respect to the order, the Secretary may recover
20 such amount from the former employee in the same man-
21 ner as any other debt due to the United States.

22 “(2) Nothing in this subsection may be construed to
23 permit the Secretary to waive the recovery of such amount
24 under section 5302 of this title.”.

25 (b) RELOCATION EXPENSES.—Section 723 of such
26 title is amended—

1 (1) in subsection (a), by inserting “, or a
2 former employee of the Department,” after “an em-
3 ployee of the Department”; and

4 (2) by adding at the end the following new sub-
5 section:

6 “(c) AUTHORITY TO COLLECT FROM FORMER EM-
7 PLOYEES.—(1) If the Director upholds an order of the
8 Secretary under subsection (a) with respect to an indi-
9 vidual who is a former employee of the Department, and
10 such individual does not repay the amount of the award
11 or bonus subject to the order within 180 days after the
12 date of the final decision of the Director under subsection
13 (b) with respect to the order, the Secretary may recover
14 such amount from the former employee in the same man-
15 ner as any other debt due to the United States.

16 “(2) Nothing in this subsection may be construed to
17 permit the Secretary to waive the recovery of such amount
18 under section 5302 of this title.”.

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