

117TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 181

To amend title 38, United States Code, to improve the procurement practices of the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 4, 2021

Mr. WITTMAN introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs

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## A BILL

To amend title 38, United States Code, to improve the procurement practices of the Department of Veterans Affairs, 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 “VA Procurement Effi-  
5 ciency and Transparency Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. INFORMATION ON COST OR PRICE SAVINGS FROM  
7 COMPETITION.**

8       (a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 81 of title 38, United  
9 States Code, is amended by inserting after section 8128  
10 the following new section:

1     **“§ 8129. Information on cost or price savings from**  
2                 **competition**

3         “(a) RECORDING OF INFORMATION.—With respect to  
4     any contract awarded by the Secretary that is reported  
5     in the Federal Procurement Data System described in sec-  
6     tion 1122(a)(4)(A) of title 41, United States Code, or any  
7     successor system, the Secretary shall record information  
8     on the amount of any cost or price savings realized by  
9     using competitive procedures in awarding such contract.

10        “(b) PLACEMENT OF RECORDS.—The Secretary shall  
11     place recorded information under subsection (a) as follows:

12               “(1) With respect to contracts recorded in the  
13     Electronic Contract Management System, or any  
14     successor system, in such system.

15               “(2) With respect to contracts not covered by  
16     paragraph (1), in a location determined appropriate  
17     by the Secretary.

18        “(c) CALCULATION OF COST SAVINGS.—(1) In car-  
19     rying out subsection (a), the Secretary shall calculate the  
20     amount of cost or price savings realized by using competi-  
21     tive procedures in awarding a contract by—

22               “(A) subtracting the total value of the selected  
23     offer or quote from the average of the total values  
24     of all offers or quotes evaluated; or

1               “(B) subtracting the total value of the selected  
2               offer or quote from the total value of the median  
3               offer or quote evaluated.

4               “(2) If the difference calculated pursuant to para-  
5 graph (1) is negative, the Secretary shall record such dif-  
6 ference as zero.

7               “(3) The Secretary shall make calculations under  
8 paragraph (1) with respect to a contract—

9               “(A) at the time at which the Secretary obli-  
10               gates amounts under such contract; or

11               “(B) if such contract contains options, at the  
12               time at which the option is exercised.”.

13               (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections  
14 at the beginning of such chapter is amended by inserting  
15 after the item relating to section 8128 the following new  
16 item:

“8129. Information on cost or price savings from competition.”.

17 **SEC. 3. USE OF STANDARDIZED PROCUREMENT TEM-  
18 PLATES.**

19               To the extent practicable, the Secretary of Veterans  
20 Affairs shall make available and use on a Department-  
21 wide basis the standardized procurement templates used  
22 by the Central Office of the Department, the Veterans  
23 Health Administration, the Veterans Benefits Administra-  
24 tion, and the National Cemetery Administration. In car-

- 1 trying out this section, the Secretary may customize such
- 2 templates to address particular procurement situations.

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