

112TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# S. 842

To require reports by the Comptroller General on Department of Defense military spouse employment programs, and for other purposes.

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

APRIL 14, 2011

Mr. CASEY introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Armed Services

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## A BILL

To require reports by the Comptroller General on Department of Defense military spouse employment programs, 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 “Military Spouse Em-  
5 ployment Programs Evaluation Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. COMPTROLLER GENERAL REPORTS ON DEPART-**  
7 **MENT OF DEFENSE MILITARY SPOUSE EM-**  
8 **PLOYMENT PROGRAMS.**

9 (a) ANNUAL REVIEW REQUIRED.—The Comptroller  
10 General of the United States shall carry out each year a

1 review of all current Department of Defense military  
2 spouse employment programs.

3 (b) ELEMENTS.—Each review required by subsection  
4 (a) shall, address, at a minimum, the following:

5 (1) The efficacy and effectiveness of Depart-  
6 ment of Defense military spouse employment pro-  
7 grams.

8 (2) All current Department programs to sup-  
9 port military spouses or dependents for the purposes  
10 of employment assistance.

11 (3) The types of military spouse employment  
12 programs that have been considered or used in the  
13 past by the Department.

14 (4) The ways in which military spouse employ-  
15 ment programs have changed in recent years.

16 (5) The benefits or programs that are specifi-  
17 cally available to provide employment assistance to  
18 spouses of members of the Armed Forces serving in  
19 Operation Iraqi Freedom, Operation Enduring Free-  
20 dom, or Operation New Dawn, or any other contin-  
21 gency operation being conducted by the Armed  
22 Forces as of the date of such review.

23 (6) Existing mechanisms available to military  
24 spouses to express their views on the effectiveness  
25 and future direction of Department programs and

1 policies on employment assistance for military  
2 spouses.

3 (7) The oversight provided by the Office of Per-  
4 sonnel and Management regarding preferences for  
5 military spouses in Federal employment.

6 (c) COMPTROLLER GENERAL REPORTS.—Not later  
7 than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act,  
8 and annually thereafter, the Comptroller General shall  
9 submit to the congressional defense committees a report  
10 on the review carried out under subsection (a) during the  
11 year in which such review is carried out. Each report shall  
12 set forth the following:

13 (1) The results of the review concerned.

14 (2) In the first report submitted under this sub-  
15 section, such clear and concrete metrics as the  
16 Comptroller General considers appropriate for the  
17 current and future evaluation and assessment of the  
18 efficacy and effectiveness of Department of Defense  
19 military spouse employment programs.

20 (3) A description of the assumptions utilized in  
21 the review, and an assessment of the validity and  
22 completeness of such assumptions.

23 (4) Such recommendations as the Comptroller  
24 General considers appropriate for improving Depart-

1       ment of Defense military spouse employment pro-  
2       grams.

3       (d) DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE REPORTS.—Not  
4 later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of  
5 this Act, and annually thereafter, the Secretary of Defense  
6 shall submit to the congressional defense committees a re-  
7 port setting forth the number (or a reasonable estimate  
8 if a precise number is not available) of military spouses  
9 who have obtained employment following participation in  
10 Department of Defense military spouse employment pro-  
11 grams. The report shall set forth such number (or esti-  
12 mate) for the Department of Defense military spouse em-  
13 ployment programs as a whole and for each such military  
14 spouse employment program.

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