

117TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 2195

To require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to make all fact sheets of the Department of Veterans Affairs available in English, Spanish, and Tagalog, and other commonly spoken languages, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JUNE 23, 2021

Ms. HIRONO introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs

A BILL

To require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to make all fact sheets of the Department of Veterans Affairs available in English, Spanish, and Tagalog, and other commonly spoken languages, 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 and Family
5 Information Act of 2021”.

1 **SEC. 2. AVAILABILITY OF DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AF-**
2 **FAIRS FACT SHEETS IN COMMONLY SPOKEN**
3 **LANGUAGES.**

4 (a) **LANGUAGES.**—The Secretary of Veterans Affairs
5 shall make available versions of all fact sheets of the De-
6 partment of Veterans Affairs in—

7 (1) English;

8 (2) Spanish;

9 (3) Tagalog; and

10 (4) each of the 10 most commonly spoken lan-
11 guages, other than English, in the United States
12 that are not otherwise covered by paragraphs (2)
13 and (3).

14 (b) **WEBSITE.**—

15 (1) **IN GENERAL.**—The Secretary shall establish
16 and maintain a publicly available website of the De-
17 partment that contains links to all fact sheets of the
18 Veterans Benefits Administration, Veterans Health
19 Administration, and of the National Cemetery Ad-
20 ministration.

21 (2) **ACCESS TO WEBSITE.**—The Secretary shall
22 ensure that the website established under paragraph
23 (1) is accessible by a clearly labeled hyperlink on the
24 homepage of the Department.

25 (c) **REPORT.**—

1 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days
2 after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Sec-
3 retary shall submit to Congress a report regarding
4 fact sheets described in subsection (a) and details of
5 the Language Access Plan of the Department of
6 Veteran Affairs.

7 (2) CONTENTS.—The report required by para-
8 graph (1) shall include the following:

9 (A) What the Secretary determines con-
10 stitutes a fact sheet of the Department for pur-
11 poses of this section.

12 (B) How such fact sheets are used and dis-
13 tributed other than on and through the website
14 of the Department.

15 (C) How such Language Access Plan is
16 communicated to veterans, family members of
17 veterans, and caregivers.

18 (D) The roles and responsibilities of pa-
19 tient advocates in the coordination of care for
20 veterans with limited English proficiency, fam-
21 ily members of such veterans, and caregivers.

22 (E) Other demographic information that
23 the Secretary determines appropriate regarding
24 veterans with limited English proficiency.

○