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(Original Signature of Member)

116TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

**H. R.** \_\_\_\_\_

To direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to conduct an assessment of the capacity of peer specialists of the Department of Veterans Affairs who are women, and for other purposes.

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IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

M\_\_\_\_. \_\_\_\_\_ introduced the following bill; which was referred to the  
Committee on \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
**A BILL**

To direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to conduct an assessment of the capacity of peer specialists of the Department of Veterans Affairs who are women, 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 Peer Specialists  
5 Act”.



1           number of hours worked per week, to better de-  
2           fine, delineate, and standardize qualifications,  
3           performance goals, performance duties, and  
4           performance outcomes for peer specialists and  
5           their managers.

6                   (F) Department funds and other resources  
7           dedicated to supporting the work of women peer  
8           specialists.

9           (b) REPORT.—Not later than one year after the as-  
10          sessment required by subsection (a) has commenced, the  
11          Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Veterans' Af-  
12          fairs of the Senate and the Committee on Veterans' Af-  
13          fairs of the House of Representatives a report detailing  
14          the findings of the assessment, including the ratio of how  
15          many hours were worked by women peer specialists rel-  
16          ative to the population of women veterans at each Depart-  
17          ment medical center.

18                  (c) STAFFING IMPROVEMENT PLAN.—

19                   (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days  
20          after submitting the report under subsection (b), the  
21          Secretary, in consultation with the Inspector Gen-  
22          eral, shall submit to the Committee on Veterans' Af-  
23          fairs of the Senate and the Committee on Veterans'  
24          Affairs of the House of Representatives a plan,  
25          based on the results of the assessment required by

1 subsection (a), to hire additional qualified peer spe-  
2 cialists who are women, with special consideration  
3 for areas that lack peer specialists who are women.

4 (2) ELEMENTS.—The peer specialist positions  
5 included in the plan required by paragraph (1)—

6 (A) shall be non-volunteer, paid positions;

7 and

8 (B) may be part-time positions.