

S. 1664, Department of Veterans Affairs Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder Processing Claims Improvement Act of 2021

As ordered reported by the Senate Committee on Veterans' Affairs on December 15, 2021

By Fiscal Year, Millions of Dollars	2022	2022-2026	2022-2031
Direct Spending (Outlays)	0	0	0
Revenues	0	0	0
Increase or Decrease (-) in the Deficit	0	0	0
Spending Subject to Appropriation (Outlays)	*	*	not estimated
Statutory pay-as-you-go procedures apply?	No	Mandate Effects	
Increases on-budget deficits in any of the four consecutive 10-year periods beginning in 2032?	No	Contains intergovernmental mandate?	No
		Contains private-sector mandate?	No

* = between zero and \$500,000.

S. 1664 would require the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) to develop an annual training program for employees who process disability compensation claims for post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD). The bill also would require VA to develop a process to analyze future training needs based on an annual evaluation of errors in processing PTSD claims. Finally, VA would be required to annually determine if training for PTSD claims processors should be updated.

VA provides annual training for PTSD claims processors, updates that training as necessary, and analyzes error rates in PTSD-related claims. Because VA is already completing most of the bill's requirements, any incremental costs to implement the bill would be insignificant. Those costs would be subject to the availability of appropriated funds.

The CBO staff contact for this estimate is Logan Smith. The estimate was reviewed by Leo Lex, Deputy Director of Budget Analysis.