

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON VETERANS' AFFAIRS

CHAIRMAN MIKE BOST

VA Contracting and Procurement Reforms

Background:

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) procurement and contracting practices—particularly for medical technology and enterprise-scale services—lack the internal consistency, transparency, and congressional oversight found in other major federal agencies. Current acquisition workflows at VA are fragmented and outdated, with duplicative billing for surgical procedures, limited catalog flexibility for prosthetics, and no formal review process for large-dollar contracts. As a result, VA can obligate hundreds of millions in taxpayer funds with minimal external accountability.

This bill would reform VA's contracting process by modernizing medical implant acquisition, consolidating billing for surgical procedures, and requiring congressional authorization before VA obligates funds for any procurement or contract exceeding \$100 million. This would enhance the delivery of care to veterans and cut back on red tape within these services.

The Message:

This would ensure VA contracts serve veterans, not bureaucrats or contractors. This bill would also introduce accountability, clinical efficiency, and real fiscal oversight into VA's procurement pipeline.

This bill would:

- Require at least two annual submission windows for FDA-cleared prosthetics and medical implants to be added or updated in VA's national product catalog, with a mandate to move toward continuous product addition within three years.
- Align submission templates and data requirements with those used by the Defense Health Agency to reduce administrative burden and improve consistency for veteran patients and transitioning servicemembers.
- Mandate consolidated purchase orders for surgical procedures involving medical implants, including screws, guidewires, and tools—processed as a single firm-fixed-price order through the Prosthetic and Sensory Aids Service to simplify processes for VA and veterans.
- Modernize VA's procurement and payment systems to enable real-time reconciliation, eliminate duplicate billing, and ensure compliance with Federal acquisition standards.
- Establish a statutory trigger at \$100 million for any contract, bundled set of contracts, or modification—prohibiting obligation of funds unless both the House and Senate Veterans' Affairs Committees approve a resolution authorizing the contract and its structure.
- Require a contract-type assessment before approval of any procurement exceeding the \$100 million threshold, including rationale for use of firm-fixed, cost-type, or other contracting instruments.
- Apply the \$100 million trigger to modifications and change orders that push an existing contract over the threshold—requiring congressional notification until approval is received to improve accountability.