



HOUSE COMMITTEE ON **VETERANS' AFFAIRS**

Chairman Phil Roe, M.D.

H.R. 2772: The VA Senior Executive Accountability Act or the “SEA Act”

Background:

There are numerous [instances](#) within the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) where Senior Executive Service (SES) employees used their leadership positions as leverage to be reassigned to another position for their own personal gain. Following exposure of this scandal, VA halted their Appraised Value Offer (AVO) program, a program used to move senior executives that was often costly to taxpayers. Despite its past scandals, VA has recently reinstated the AVO program.

The VA Senior Executive Accountability Act will improve transparency by requiring VA to inform Congress about where senior executives are being moved. Further, this legislation would require the secretary to personally approve of a reassignment of VA's approximately 350 SES employees and submit a semiannual report to Congress detailing what employees had been reassigned and at what cost.

The Message:

- Senior VA employees should not use their leadership roles as leverage to be reassigned to different positions for their own personal gain.
- Congress should be informed of the costs associated with moving SES employees from one position to another.
- VA has a duty to spend tax dollars wisely, and the APO program is known to have instances of waste, fraud and abuse.
- The VA Senior Executive Accountability Act will increase transparency at VA.