



HOUSE COMMITTEE ON
VETERANS' AFFAIRS
Chairman Phil Roe, M.D.

H.R. 3562: To amend title 38, United States Code, to authorize the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to furnish assistance for adaptations of residences of veterans in rehabilitation programs

Background:

Among all of the veterans who serve our country, those who return home with service-connected disabilities are the ones who rely the most on help from the VA. Veterans who cannot work due to a disability are eligible for independent living services as part of the Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment (VR&E) program, allowing VA counselors to offer specialized home adaptations to the veterans in need. Unfortunately, while these VR&E counselors all have master's degrees, they do not have the proper knowledge of how to appropriately adapt a home.

H.R. 3562 would task Specially Adapted Housing agents from the VA's Home Loan Service to provide home adaptations to eligible independent living program veterans. These agents will have better and more complete knowledge concerning home adaptations and will ensure that these service-disabled veterans receive the best in-home care.

The Message:

- We have a duty to take care of veterans who have been injured as a result of their service.
- Veterans who return home with service-connected disabilities are the ones who rely the most on help from the VA.
- This bill would ensure that veterans with disabilities are provided with the absolute best in-home adaptations to make their quality of life.
- This bill contributes towards a more efficient VA by building upon an existing, successful program.