

H.R. 1066: The VA Management Alignment Act of 2017

## **Background:**

The <u>2015 Independent Assessment</u> found the organizational structure of the Veterans Health Administration (VHA) to be, "intensely, unnecessarily complex" and rampant with mistrust and risk aversion.

The <u>2016 Commission on Care</u> also found serious fault VHA's organization - noting that it had the dubious distinction of having one of the lowest organizational health scores in all of government. Similar findings have been found in numerous Government Accountability Office (GAO) and VA Inspector General reports; have been voiced by veterans, veteran service organizations and VA employees; and have been common themes in the committee's oversight hearings and site visits for years.

H.R. 1066 would require VA to submit a report on VA's organizational structure to include the roles, responsibility, and accountability of VA key leaders and elements using the findings of the Independent Assessment, the Commission on Care and other relevant reports as resources.

## The Message:

- The Veteran Health Administration's failing organizational structure is prohibiting progress within the VA healthcare system.
- In order for VHA to effectively serve our nation's heroes, it must improve its internal management and organizational structure and function.
- This bill would require VHA to submit a report on VA's organizational structure of VA key leaders and elements using the findings of the Independent Assessment, the Commission on Care and other relevant reports as resources.