

**As Introduced**

**136th General Assembly  
Regular Session  
2025-2026**

**S. R. No. 22**

**Senator Schaffer**

**Cosponsors: Senators Brenner, Koehler, Cirino, DeMora, O'Brien, Weinstein,  
Smith, Wilson, Wilkin**



**A R E S O L U T I O N**

To urge the President of the United States, the United States Secretary of Veterans Affairs, and the United States Congress to take prompt action to reduce the processing time for veterans' disability benefit claims.

**BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF OHIO:**

WHEREAS, The service members of the United States armed forces have bravely and selflessly served our country; and

WHEREAS, The United States Department of Veterans Affairs disability benefits program provides monetary support to veterans whose military service has caused or aggravated a disabling medical condition; and

WHEREAS, According to the National Center for Veterans Analysis and Statistics, the total number of veterans with a service-connected disability has increased every year since 1991 and was 4,944,275 in 2019; and

WHEREAS, According to the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, the Department took an average of 139.3 days to complete disability-related claims in November 2024; and

WHEREAS, The U.S. Government Accountability Office made 19  
several recommendations directed toward improving the U.S. 20  
Department of Veterans Affairs' capacity to manage workload 21  
risks, monitor and assess performance, and plan for further 22  
development of information technology; and 23

WHEREAS, The "Veterans Appeals Improvement and 24  
Modernization Act of 2017," 38 U.S.C. 7113, made changes to 25  
improve the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs' appeals process 26  
and also required the U.S. Government Accountability Office to 27  
assess the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs' original plan to 28  
improve the veterans benefits claim appeals process; and 29

WHEREAS, The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs has failed 30  
to comply with the Veterans Appeals Improvement and 31  
Modernization Act of 2017; now therefore be it 32

RESOLVED, That we, the members of the 136th General 33  
Assembly of the State of Ohio, urge the President of the United 34  
States, the United States Secretary of Veterans Affairs, and the 35  
Congress of the United States to take prompt action to reduce 36  
the processing time for veterans' disability benefit claims; and 37  
be it further 38

RESOLVED, That we, the members of the 136th General 39  
Assembly of the State of Ohio, urge the U.S. Department of 40  
Veterans Affairs to adopt policies to ensure that, for each 41  
applicant, the disability benefits program appeals process 42  
concludes not later than three months following the date on 43  
which an applicant receives an initial determination letter from 44  
the Department; and be it further 45

RESOLVED, That the Clerk of the Senate transmit duly 46  
authenticated copies of this resolution to the President of the 47  
United States, the United States Secretary of Veterans Affairs, 48  
the President Pro Tempore and Secretary of the United States 49  
Senate, the Speaker and Clerk of the United States House of 50

Representatives, each member of the Ohio Congressional  
delegation, and the news media of Ohio.

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