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(Original Signature of Member)

119TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. _____

To direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to provide to certain congressional committees a briefing on the medical center of the Department of Veterans Affairs in El Paso, Texas, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Ms. ESCOBAR introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on _____

A BILL

To direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to provide to certain congressional committees a briefing on the medical center of the Department of Veterans Affairs in El Paso, Texas, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “El Paso VA Medical
5 Center Activation Readiness Act of 2026”.

1 **SEC. 2. BRIEFING ON MEDICAL CENTER OF DEPARTMENT**
2 **OF VETERANS AFFAIRS IN EL PASO, TEXAS.**

3 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the
4 date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Vet-
5 erans Affairs shall provide to the appropriate congres-
6 sional committees a briefing on the medical center of the
7 Department of Veterans Affairs under construction in El
8 Paso, Texas, which shall include information on the fol-
9 lowing with respect to such center:

10 (1) Staffing requirements and recruitment
11 plans, including with respect to both clinical and
12 support staff.

13 (2) Workforce stability and hiring capacity, in-
14 cluding any impacts of workforce restructuring, hir-
15 ing limitations, or reductions in force on the ability
16 of the Secretary to recruit, retain, and fully staff the
17 medical center.

18 (3) The timeline for the procurement and in-
19 stallation of medical equipment.

20 (4) The specialty care services to be furnished
21 to veterans.

22 (5) The demand for care in the area to be
23 served.

24 (6) Any plans to transfer the care of veterans
25 from other facilities or providers.

1 (7) Any plans to coordinate with medical facili-
2 ties of the Department of Defense, including the
3 William Beaumont Army Medical Center, to ensure
4 continuity of care.

5 (8) Any access or travel issues for recipients of
6 care from both rural and urban communities and
7 plans to address such issues, including through co-
8 ordination with transportation providers and munici-
9 palities and other government entities.

10 (b) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES
11 DEFINED.—In this section, the term “appropriate con-
12 gressional committees” means—

13 (1) the Committees on Veterans’ Affairs of the
14 Senate and House of Representatives; and

15 (2) the Committees on Appropriations of the
16 Senate and House of Representatives.