

118TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. _____

To amend title 38, United States Code, to prohibit the consideration of childcare expenses in the calculation of debt-to-income ratios for Department of Veterans Affairs housing loans, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

Mr. OSSOFF (for himself and Mr. RUBIO) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on _____

A BILL

To amend title 38, United States Code, to prohibit the consideration of childcare expenses in the calculation of debt-to-income ratios for Department of Veterans Affairs housing loans, 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 “Veterans Home Loan
5 Fairness Act of 2024”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS AND PURPOSE.**

7 (a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds the following:

1 (1) Veterans and their families often face
2 unique financial challenges, including the cost of
3 childcare.

4 (2) The consideration of childcare expenses in
5 the calculation of debt-to-income ratios can dis-
6 proportionately affect the ability of veterans to qual-
7 ify for home loans.

8 (3) Ensuring equitable access to home loans is
9 critical to supporting veterans and their families.

10 (b) PURPOSE.—The purpose of this Act is to prohibit
11 the consideration of childcare expenses in the calculation
12 of debt-to-income ratios for Department of Veterans Af-
13 fairs housing loans to promote fair access to home owner-
14 ship for veterans.

15 **SEC. 3. PROHIBITION ON CONSIDERATION OF CHILDCARE**
16 **EXPENSES IN DEBT-TO-INCOME RATIO CAL-**
17 **CULATIONS.**

18 (a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 37 of title 38, United
19 States Code, is amended by inserting after section 3720
20 the following new section:

21 **“§ 3720B. Prohibition on consideration of childcare**
22 **expenses in debt-to-income ratio calcula-**
23 **tions**

24 “(a) IN GENERAL.—In determining the eligibility of
25 a veteran for a housing loan guaranteed, insured, or made

1 under this chapter, the Secretary shall ensure that
2 childcare expenses are not considered in the calculation
3 of the veteran's debt-to-income ratio.

4 “(b) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

5 “(1) CHILDCARE EXPENSES.—The term
6 ‘childcare expenses’ means costs incurred for the
7 care of a child or minor dependent of the veteran
8 concerned.

9 “(2) DEBT-TO-INCOME RATIO.—The term ‘debt-
10 to-income ratio’ means the ratio of a veteran's total
11 monthly debt payments to such veteran's gross
12 monthly income.

13 “(c) REGULATIONS.—The Secretary shall prescribe
14 such regulations as are necessary to implement the re-
15 quirements of this section.”.

16 (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections
17 at the beginning of chapter 37 of such title is amended
18 by inserting after the item relating to section 3720 the
19 following new item:

“3720B. Prohibition on consideration of childcare expenses in debt-to-income
calculations.”.

20 **SEC. 4. EFFECTIVE DATE.**

21 This Act and the amendments made by this Act shall
22 take effect 90 days after the date of the enactment of this
23 Act.