



**CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE
COST ESTIMATE**

September 12, 2014

**H.R. 3593
The VA Construction Assistance Act of 2013**

*As ordered reported by the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs
on September 10, 2014*

H.R. 3593 would require the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) to employ special project managers from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to oversee three existing construction projects in Colorado, Florida, and Louisiana. Because construction on the facility in Florida is nearing completion, CBO expects that implementing this provision would require project managers and support teams at the Colorado and Louisiana sites only, at a cost of \$3 million over the 2015-2019 period, assuming appropriation of the necessary amounts.

The bill also would codify in law certain practices designed to ensure that construction of major VA medical facilities is completed on time and within the planned budget. Such practices include developing and using project management plans, conducting peer reviews of projects, using medical equipment planners, and developing a metrics program to monitor the change-order process. Because VA has recently adopted these practices, CBO estimates that implementing this provision would have no budgetary impact.

Pay-as-you-go procedures do not apply to this legislation because it would not affect direct spending or revenues.

H.R. 3593 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act and would not affect the budgets of state, local, or tribal governments.

The CBO staff contact for this estimate is Ann E. Futrell. The estimate was approved by Theresa Gullo, Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.