



Veterans: Legislation Plus Aggressive Action Needed To Strengthen VA's Debt Collection: HRD-81-5

U.S. Government Accountability Office (GAO)

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By -

Bibliogov, United States, 2013. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 246 x 189 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book ***** Print on Demand *****. GAO was asked to study the feasibility of resuming collection action on education assistance overpayments written off as uncollectible by the Veterans Administration (VA) through the use of generally accepted private-sector debt collection practices. Special attention was given to the reporting of delinquent and terminated accounts to commercial credit bureaus as a means of motivating veterans to repay their debts to the government. GAO obtained a random sample of commercial credit reports on veterans whose accounts had been terminated as uncollectible and found that most of the veterans were employed, had an established history of paying their private-sector creditors, and had private-sector lines of credit equal to or greater than the amounts owed to VA. Several factors have hampered VA debt collection efforts and contributed to a large volume of educational assistance overpayment accounts terminated in recent years. GAO believes that the most significant problem is that veterans have been able to ignore the demands of VA for repayment with little or no fear of the adverse actions which would normally result from failure to pay debts owed...



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