Suspend the Rules and Pass the Bill, H.R. 1344, With an Amendment

(The amendment strikes all after the enacting clause and inserts a new text)

113TH CONGRESS 1ST SESSION

H. R. 1344

To amend title 49, United States Code, to direct the Assistant Secretary of Homeland Security (Transportation Security Administration) to provide expedited air passenger screening to severely injured or disabled members of the Armed Forces and severely injured or disabled veterans, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

March 21, 2013

Ms. Gabbard (for herself, Mr. Joyce, and Mr. Richmond) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Homeland Security

A BILL

To amend title 49, United States Code, to direct the Assistant Secretary of Homeland Security (Transportation Security Administration) to provide expedited air passenger screening to severely injured or disabled members of the Armed Forces and severely injured or disabled veterans, 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,

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1	SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.
2	This Act may be cited as the "Helping Heroes Fly
3	Act".
4	SEC. 2. OPERATIONS CENTER PROGRAM FOR SEVERELY IN-
5	JURED OR DISABLED MEMBERS OF THE
6	ARMED FORCES AND SEVERELY INJURED OR
7	DISABLED VETERANS.
8	(a) In General.—Subchapter I of chapter 449 of
9	title 49, United States Code, is amended by adding at the
10	end the following new section:
11	"§ 44927. Expedited screening for severely injured or
12	disabled members of the Armed Forces
13	and severely injured or disabled veterans
14	"(a) Passenger Screening.—The Assistant Sec-
15	retary, in consultation with the Secretary of Defense, the
16	Secretary of Veterans Affairs, and organizations that ad-
17	vocate on behalf of members of the Armed Forces and vet-
18	erans, including organizations that advocate on behalf of
19	severely injured or disabled members of the Armed Forces
20	and severely injured or disabled veterans, shall develop
21	and implement a process to facilitate the ease of travel
22	and to the extent possible provide expedited passenger
23	screening services for severely injured or disabled mem-
24	bers of the Armed Forces, severely injured or disabled vet-
25	erans, and their accompanying family members or non-

26 medical attendants. Such process shall be designed to pro-

- 1 tect the privacy of the individual being screened to the 2 maximum extent practicable.
- 3 "(b) Operations Center.—As part of the process

required under subsection (a), the Assistant Secretary

- 5 shall maintain an operations center to provide support and
- 6 facilitate the movement of severely injured or disabled
- 7 members of the Armed Forces and severely injured or dis-
- 8 abled veterans through screening prior to boarding a pas-
- 9 senger aircraft operated by an air carrier or foreign air
- 10 carrier in air transportation or intrastate air transpor-
- 11 tation. Such operations center shall be operational at all
- 12 times.
- 13 "(c) Protocols.—The Assistant Secretary shall—
- 14 "(1) establish and publish protocols, in con-
- sultation with the Secretary of Defense, the Sec-
- retary of Veterans Affairs, and organizations that
- advocate on behalf of members of the Armed Forces
- and veterans, including organizations that advocate
- on behalf of severely injured or disabled members of
- the Armed Forces and severely injured or disabled
- veterans, under which a severely injured or disabled
- member of the Armed Forces or severely injured or
- disabled veteran, or the family member or other rep-
- resentative of such a member or veteran, may con-
- tact the operations center maintained under sub-

1	section (b) and request expedited screening services
2	described in subsection (a) for the member or vet-
3	eran; and
4	"(2) upon receipt of such a request, require
5	such operations center to notify the appropriate
6	Federal security director of the request to facilitate
7	the expedited passenger screening services described
8	in subsection (a) for the member or veteran.
9	"(d) Training.—The Assistant Secretary shall inte-
10	grate training on the protocols established under sub-
11	section (c) into the training provided to all employees who
12	will provide the screening services described in subsection
13	(a).
13 14	(a). "(e) Rule of Construction.—Nothing in this sec-
14	"(e) Rule of Construction.—Nothing in this sec-
14 15	"(e) Rule of Construction.—Nothing in this section affects the authority of the Assistant Secretary to re-
14151617	"(e) Rule of Construction.—Nothing in this section affects the authority of the Assistant Secretary to require additional screening of a severely injured or disabled
14151617	"(e) Rule of Construction.—Nothing in this section affects the authority of the Assistant Secretary to require additional screening of a severely injured or disabled member of the Armed Forces, a severely injured or dis-
14 15 16 17 18	"(e) Rule of Construction.—Nothing in this section affects the authority of the Assistant Secretary to require additional screening of a severely injured or disabled member of the Armed Forces, a severely injured or disabled veteran, or their accompanying family members or
141516171819	"(e) Rule of Construction.—Nothing in this section affects the authority of the Assistant Secretary to require additional screening of a severely injured or disabled member of the Armed Forces, a severely injured or disabled veteran, or their accompanying family members or nonmedical attendants, if intelligence, law enforcement, or
14 15 16 17 18 19 20	"(e) Rule of Construction.—Nothing in this section affects the authority of the Assistant Secretary to require additional screening of a severely injured or disabled member of the Armed Forces, a severely injured or disabled veteran, or their accompanying family members or nonmedical attendants, if intelligence, law enforcement, or other information indicates that additional screening is
14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21	"(e) Rule of Construction.—Nothing in this section affects the authority of the Assistant Secretary to require additional screening of a severely injured or disabled member of the Armed Forces, a severely injured or disabled veteran, or their accompanying family members or nonmedical attendants, if intelligence, law enforcement, or other information indicates that additional screening is necessary.

1	on the implementation of this section. Each such report
2	shall include each of the following:
3	"(1) Information on the training provided
4	under subsection (d).
5	"(2) Information on the consultations between
6	the Assistant Secretary and organizations that advo-
7	cate on behalf of members of the Armed Forces and
8	veterans as described in subsection (a).
9	"(3) The number of people who accessed the
10	operations center during the period covered by the
11	report.
12	"(4) Such other information as the Assistant
13	Secretary determines is appropriate.".
14	(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections
15	at the beginning of such chapter is amended by inserting
16	after the item relating to section 44926 the following new
17	item:
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"44927. Expedited screening for severely injured or disabled members of the Armed Forces and severely injured or disabled veterans.".