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(Original Signature of Member)

118TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# H. R. 8645

To improve airport security screening for certain veterans and passengers with disabilities, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. THANEDAR introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Homeland Security.

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## A BILL

To improve airport security screening for certain veterans and passengers with disabilities, 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 “Improved Screening  
5 for Veterans and Passengers with Disabilities Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. IMPROVEMENTS TO AIRPORT SECURITY SCREEN-**  
2 **ING OF CERTAIN VETERANS AND PAS-**  
3 **SENGERS WITH DISABILITIES.**

4 (a) SEPARATE AND DISTINCT TRAINING FOR TSOs  
5 RELATING TO PASSENGERS WITH DISABILITIES.—Sec-  
6 tion 1950(a) of the TSA Modernization Act (49 U.S.C.  
7 44901 note; Public Law 115–254) is amended—

8 (1) in paragraph (3), by adding at the end the  
9 following new sentences: “Not later than one year  
10 after the date of the enactment of this sentence, the  
11 Administrator shall ensure such recurrent training is  
12 carried out as a separate and distinct training for all  
13 Transportation Security Officers in addition to any  
14 relevant module, component, element, or part of any  
15 other training for all Transportation Security Offi-  
16 cers, and ensure such recurrent training is required  
17 for all Transportation Security Officers not less  
18 often than annually. Not later than 30 days after  
19 the implementation of such recurrent training as a  
20 separate and distinct training for all Transportation  
21 Security Officers, the Administrator shall submit to  
22 the appropriate committees of Congress a certifi-  
23 cation relating thereto.”; and

24 (2) by adding at the end the following new  
25 paragraph:

1           “(4) BIENNIAL REVIEWS.—The Administrator,  
2           in consultation with nationally-recognized veterans  
3           and disabilities organizations, shall biennially review  
4           and update, as necessary, the curriculum for revised  
5           training requirements under paragraph (1).”.

6           (b) ELIGIBILITY OF PASSENGERS WITH DISABIL-  
7           ITIES OR MEDICAL CONDITIONS FOR EXPEDITED SECU-  
8           RITY SCREENING.—Section 44919 of title 49, United  
9           States Code, is amended—

10           (1) by redesignating subsections (j), (k), and (l)  
11           as subsections (k), (l), and (m), respectively; and

12           (2) by inserting after subsection (i) the fol-  
13           lowing new subsection:

14           “(j) ELIGIBILITY OF PASSENGERS WITH DISABIL-  
15           ITIES OR MEDICAL CONDITIONS FOR EXPEDITED SECU-  
16           RITY SCREENING.—To the extent possible, the Adminis-  
17           trator shall ensure that a passenger with a disability or  
18           medical condition enrolled in a trusted traveler program  
19           or otherwise eligible for expedited security screening is  
20           provided such screening, including at any security screen-  
21           ing lane that is dedicated to screening passengers with dis-  
22           abilities or medical conditions, whether or not such lane  
23           is a dedicated PreCheck Program lane.”.

24           (c) ELIGIBILITY OF SEVERELY INJURED OR DIS-  
25           ABLED MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES AND SE-

1 VERELY INJURED OR DISABLED VETERANS FOR EXPE-  
2 DITED SECURITY SCREENING.—Section 44927 of title 49,  
3 United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the  
4 following new subsections:

5 “(g) PRECHECK PROGRAM FOR CERTAIN SEVERELY  
6 INJURED OR DISABLED VETERANS.—

7 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to the limitation  
8 specified in subparagraph (4), the Administrator of  
9 the Transportation Security Administration shall en-  
10 roll a veteran described in paragraph (3) in the  
11 PreCheck Program under section 44919 at no cost  
12 to such veteran who satisfies the background check  
13 and other security requirements for participation in  
14 such Program.

15 “(2) COORDINATION.—The Secretary of Home-  
16 land Security, acting through the Administrator of  
17 the Transportation Security Administration, and the  
18 Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall jointly—

19 “(A) implement by not later than one year  
20 after the date of enactment of this subsection  
21 a process to verify the eligibility of a veteran  
22 described in paragraph (3) and provide to such  
23 an eligible veteran the benefits referred to in  
24 paragraph (1); and

1           “(B) brief the Committee on Homeland  
2 Security and the Committee on Veterans Af-  
3 fairs of the House of Representatives and the  
4 Committee on Homeland Security and Govern-  
5 mental Affairs, the Committee on Commerce,  
6 Science, and Transportation, and the Com-  
7 mittee on Veterans Affairs of the Senate on the  
8 status of such implementation and provision.

9           “(3) ELIGIBILITY.—A veteran described in this  
10 paragraph is a veteran who—

11           “(A) is enrolled in the patient enrollment  
12 system of the Department of Veterans Affairs  
13 established and operated under section 1705 of  
14 title 38, United States Code;

15           “(B) has—

16           “(i) lost, or lost use of, a limb;

17           “(ii) become paralyzed or partially  
18 paralyzed; or

19           “(iii) incurred permanent blindness;

20           and

21           “(C) as a result of such a loss, paralysis  
22 or partial paralysis, or blindness, requires the  
23 use of a wheelchair, prosthetic limb, or other  
24 assistive device to aid with mobility.

1           “(4) LIMITATION.—The Administrator of the  
2           Transportation Security Administration shall carry  
3           out this subsection subject to the availability of ap-  
4           propriations and may not increase fees for enroll-  
5           ment in the PreCheck Program for such purpose.

6           “(h) OUTREACH FOR SEVERELY INJURED OR DIS-  
7           ABLED VETERANS.—

8           “(1) COORDINATION.—The Secretary of Home-  
9           land Security, acting through the Administrator of  
10          the Transportation Security Administration, and the  
11          Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall carry out tar-  
12          geted outreach to severely injured or disabled vet-  
13          erans regarding how to access Transportation Secu-  
14          rity Administration programs designed to improve  
15          the screening process for severely injured and dis-  
16          abled passengers.

17          “(2) ENGAGEMENT WITH SEVERELY INJURED  
18          OR DISABLED VETERANS STAKEHOLDERS.—Notwith-  
19          standing subchapter I of chapter 35 of title 44,  
20          United States Code (commonly referred to as the  
21          ‘Paperwork Reduction Act’), or any other provision  
22          of law, the Secretary of Homeland Security, acting  
23          through the Administrator of the Transportation Se-  
24          curity Administration, in coordination with the Sec-  
25          retary of Veterans Affairs, shall—

1           “(A) engage with nationally-recognized vet-  
2           erans and disabilities organizations to assess  
3           the awareness of veterans of relevant Transpor-  
4           tation Security Administration programs; and

5           “(B) examine the need and feasibility of  
6           other measures to improve security screening  
7           procedures for severely injured and disabled  
8           veterans.

9           “(3) BRIEFING REQUIREMENT.—Not later than  
10          180 days after the date of the enactment of this  
11          subsection, the Secretary of Homeland Security, act-  
12          ing through the Administrator of the Transportation  
13          Security Administration, and the Secretary of Vet-  
14          erans Affairs shall jointly provide to the Committee  
15          on Homeland Security and the Committee on Vet-  
16          erans Affairs of the House of Representatives and  
17          the Committee on Homeland Security and Govern-  
18          mental Affairs, the Committee on Commerce,  
19          Science, and Transportation, and the Committee on  
20          Veterans Affairs of the Senate a briefing on the sta-  
21          tus of the implementation of this subsection.”.