

Suspend the Rules and Pass the Bill, H.R. 7365, With an Amendment

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

118TH CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

H. R. 7365

To provide PreCheck to certain severely injured or disabled veterans, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 15, 2024

Mr. GOSAR (for himself, Mr. WALTZ, Mr. LAMALFA, Ms. HOULAHAN, Mr. BIGGS, Mr. MOULTON, Mr. NORMAN, Ms. BROWNLEY, Ms. SLOTKIN, Mrs. RODGERS of Washington, Mr. KILMER, Mr. VAN DREW, Mr. MILLS, Mrs. HARSHBARGER, Ms. BUDZINSKI, Mr. MAST, Mrs. STEEL, Mr. THOMPSON of California, Mr. KELLY of Mississippi, Mr. CONNOLLY, Ms. STEFANIK, Mr. GALLAGHER, Mrs. LESKO, Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER, Mr. STEUBE, Mr. CRENSHAW, Mrs. LUNA, and Mr. GOTTHEIMER) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Homeland Security, and in addition to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

A BILL

To provide PreCheck to certain 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,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “Veterans Expedited
3 TSA Screening Safe Travel Act” or the “VETS Safe
4 Travel Act”.

5 **SEC. 2. AVAILABILITY OF PRECHECK PROGRAM TO CER-**
6 **TAIN SEVERELY INJURED OR DISABLED VET-**
7 **ERANS.**

8 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 44927 of title 49, United
9 States Code, is amended by adding at the end the fol-
10 lowing new subsection:

11 “(g) AVAILABILITY OF PRECHECK PROGRAM TO
12 CERTAIN SEVERELY INJURED OR DISABLED VET-
13 ERANS.—

14 “(1) IN GENERAL.—A veteran described in
15 paragraph (2) is eligible for security screening under
16 the PreCheck Program under section 44919 at no
17 cost to the veteran if the veteran is able to meet the
18 background check and other security requirements
19 for participation in the Program.

20 “(2) VETERANS DESCRIBED.—A veteran de-
21 scribed in this paragraph is a veteran who—

22 “(A) is enrolled in the patient enrollment
23 system of the Department of Veterans Affairs
24 established and operated under section 1705 of
25 title 38, United States Code;

1 “(B) has been determined by the Secretary
2 of Veterans Affairs to have a service-connected
3 disability under section 1110 or 1131 of such
4 title, as the case may be, and such disability
5 has been determined by such Secretary to have
6 resulted in—

7 “(i) loss, or loss use of, an extremity;

8 “(ii) paralysis or partial paralysis; or

9 “(iii) permanent blindness; and

10 “(C) as a result of a loss, paralysis or par-
11 tial paralysis, or blindness described in subpara-
12 graph (B), requires the use of a wheelchair,
13 prosthetic limb, or other assistive device to aid
14 with mobility.

15 “(3) LIMITATION.—The Administrator of the
16 Transportation Security Administration shall carry
17 out this subsection subject to the availability of ap-
18 propriations and may not increase fees for enroll-
19 ment in the PreCheck Program for such purpose.”.

20 (b) COORDINATION ON IMPLEMENTATION.—The Ad-
21 ministrator of the Transportation Security Administration
22 and the Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall jointly—

23 (1) implement a process under which a veteran
24 described in paragraph (2) of subsection (g) of sec-
25 tion 44927 of title 49, United States Code, as added

1 by subsection (a), can receive the benefits under
2 such subsection by not later than one year after the
3 date of enactment of this Act; and

4 (2) provide to the Committee on Homeland Se-
5 curity and the Committee on Veterans' Affairs of
6 the House of Representatives and the Committee on
7 Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs and
8 the Committee on Veterans' Affairs of the Senate a
9 briefing on the status of implementing the process
10 required by paragraph (1) by not later than one year
11 after the date of the enactment of this Act.

12 (c) OUTREACH FOR DISABLED VETERANS ON AVAIL-
13 ABILITY OF TRANSPORTATION SECURITY ADMINISTRA-
14 TION PROGRAMS.—

15 (1) COORDINATION.—The Secretary of Vet-
16 erans Affairs and the Administrator of the Trans-
17 portation Security Administration shall implement a
18 process under which such Secretary provides to dis-
19 abled veterans effective outreach regarding Trans-
20 portation Security Administration programs de-
21 signed to improve the screening process for pas-
22 sengers with disabilities.

23 (2) FURTHER ENHANCEMENTS TO EASE AIR
24 TRAVEL FOR WOUNDED WARRIORS AND OTHER DIS-
25 ABLED VETERANS.—Notwithstanding subchapter I

1 of chapter 35 of title 44, United States Code (com-
2 monly referred to as the “Paperwork Reduction
3 Act”), or any other provision of law, the Secretary
4 of Veterans Affairs, in coordination with the Admin-
5 istrator of the Transportation Security Administra-
6 tion, shall—

7 (A) engage appropriate veterans service or-
8 ganizations and other relevant organizations, as
9 appropriate, to assess the awareness of veterans
10 of relevant Transportation Security Administra-
11 tion programs; and

12 (B) examine the need and feasibility of
13 other measures to improve travel security proce-
14 dures for disabled veterans.

15 (3) BRIEFING REQUIREMENT.—Not later than
16 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act,
17 the Secretary of Veterans Affairs and the Adminis-
18 trator of the Transportation Security Administration
19 shall jointly provide to the Committee on Homeland
20 Security and the Committee on Veterans’ Affairs of
21 the House of Representatives and the Committee on
22 Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs and
23 the Committee on Veterans’ Affairs of the Senate a
24 briefing on the status of the implementation of para-
25 graphs (1) and (2).