

118TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 7504

To expand and modify the grant program of the Department of Veterans Affairs to provide innovative transportation options to veterans in highly rural areas, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 29, 2024

Ms. PEREZ (for herself, Mr. CISCOMANI, and Mr. VASQUEZ) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs

A BILL

To expand and modify the grant program of the Department of Veterans Affairs to provide innovative transportation options to veterans in highly rural areas, 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 “Rural Veterans Trans-
5 portation to Care Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. EXPANSION AND MODIFICATION OF TRANSPOR-**
2 **TATION GRANT PROGRAM OF DEPARTMENT**
3 **OF VETERANS AFFAIRS.**

4 Section 307 of the Caregivers and Veterans Omnibus
5 Health Services Act of 2010 (Public Law 111–163; 38
6 U.S.C. 1710 note) is amended—

7 (1) in the section heading, by inserting
8 **“RURAL OR”** before **“HIGHLY”**;

9 (2) in subsection (a)—

10 (A) by inserting “rural or” before “highly”
11 each place it appears;

12 (B) in paragraph (2), by adding at the end
13 the following new subparagraph:

14 “(C) Tribal organizations.”;

15 (C) in paragraph (3), by striking “A State
16 veterans service agency or veterans service or-
17 ganization awarded” and inserting “A recipient
18 of”; and

19 (D) by striking paragraph (4) and insert-
20 ing the following new paragraph (4):

21 “(4) MAXIMUM AMOUNT.—

22 “(A) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in
23 subparagraph (B), the amount of a grant under
24 this section may not exceed \$60,000.

25 “(B) ADDITIONAL AMOUNT FOR ADA-COM-
26 PLIANT VEHICLE.—The amount of a grant

1 under this section to a recipient may be in-
2 creased to an amount not to exceed \$80,000 if
3 the recipient of such grant is required to pur-
4 chase a vehicle to comply with the requirements
5 of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990
6 (42 U.S.C. 12101 et seq.).”;

7 (3) in subsection (c)—

8 (A) by striking paragraph (1) and insert-
9 ing the following:

10 “(1) RURAL; HIGHLY RURAL.—The terms
11 ‘rural’ and ‘highly rural’ have the meanings given
12 such terms under the Rural-Urban Commuting
13 Areas (RUCA) coding system of the Department of
14 Agriculture.”;

15 (B) by redesignating paragraph (2) as
16 paragraph (3); and

17 (C) by inserting after paragraph (1), the
18 following new paragraph:

19 “(2) TRIBAL ORGANIZATION.—The term ‘trib-
20 al organization’ has the meaning given such term in
21 section 4 of the Indian Self-Determination and Edu-
22 cation Assistance Act (25 U.S.C. 5304).”; and

1 (4) in subsection (d), by striking “\$3,000,000
2 for each of fiscal years 2010 through 2014” and in-
3 serting “such sums as may be necessary”.

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