

118TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 5487

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

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

DECEMBER 11, 2024

Mr. YOUNG (for himself, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. MARSHALL, and Ms. HASSAN)
introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the
Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

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,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

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

1 **SEC. 2. AVAILABILITY OF PRECHECK PROGRAM TO CER-**
 2 **TAIN SEVERELY INJURED OR DISABLED VET-**
 3 **ERANS.**

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

7 “(g) AVAILABILITY OF PRECHECK PROGRAM TO
 8 CERTAIN SEVERELY INJURED OR DISABLED VET-
 9 ERANS.—

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

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

18 “(A) is enrolled in the patient enrollment
 19 system of the Department of Veterans Affairs
 20 established and operated under section 1705 of
 21 title 38, United States Code;

22 “(B) has been determined by the Secretary
 23 of Veterans Affairs to have a service-connected
 24 disability under section 1110 or 1131 of such
 25 title, as the case may be, and such disability

1 has been determined by such Secretary to have
2 resulted in—

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

4 “(ii) paralysis or partial paralysis; or

5 “(iii) permanent blindness; and

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

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

16 (b) COORDINATION ON IMPLEMENTATION.—The Ad-
17 ministrator of the Transportation Security Administration
18 and the Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall jointly—

19 (1) implement a process under which a veteran
20 described in paragraph (2) of subsection (g) of sec-
21 tion 44927 of title 49, United States Code, as added
22 by subsection (a), can receive the benefits under
23 such subsection by not later than one year after the
24 date of enactment of this Act; and

(2) provide to the Committee on Homeland Security and the Committee on Veterans' Affairs of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs and the Committee on Veterans' Affairs of the Senate a briefing on the status of implementing the process required by paragraph (1) by not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act.

(c) OUTREACH FOR DISABLED VETERANS ON AVAILABILITY OF TRANSPORTATION SECURITY ADMINISTRATION PROGRAMS.—

(1) COORDINATION.—The Secretary of Veterans Affairs and the Administrator of the Transportation Security Administration shall implement a process under which such Secretary provides to disabled veterans effective outreach regarding Transportation Security Administration programs designed to improve the screening process for passengers with disabilities.

(2) FURTHER ENHANCEMENTS TO EASE AIR TRAVEL FOR WOUNDED WARRIORS AND OTHER DISABLED VETERANS.—Notwithstanding subchapter I of chapter 35 of title 44, United States Code (commonly referred to as the “Paperwork Reduction Act”), or any other provision of law, the Secretary

1 of Veterans Affairs, in coordination with the Admin-
2 istrator of the Transportation Security Administra-
3 tion, shall—

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

9 (B) examine the need and feasibility of
10 other measures to improve travel security proce-
11 dures for disabled veterans.

12 (3) BRIEFING REQUIREMENT.—Not later than
13 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act,
14 the Secretary of Veterans Affairs and the Adminis-
15 trator of the Transportation Security Administration
16 shall jointly provide to the Committee on Homeland
17 Security and the Committee on Veterans' Affairs of
18 the House of Representatives and the Committee on
19 Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs and
20 the Committee on Veterans' Affairs of the Senate a
21 briefing on the status of the implementation of para-
22 graphs (1) and (2).

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