

112TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 3355

To direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to establish a grant program to assist veterans find employment, to make permanent and modify the work opportunity tax credit with respect to unemployed veterans, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NOVEMBER 3, 2011

Mr. LUJÁN (for himself and Mr. HEINRICH) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Ways and Means, 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

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## A BILL

To direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to establish a grant program to assist veterans find employment, to make permanent and modify the work opportunity tax credit with respect to unemployed 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 “Heroes Hiring Heroes  
5 Act of 2011”.

1 **SEC. 2. VETERAN EMPLOYMENT ASSISTANCE GRANT PRO-**  
2 **GRAM.**

3 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—Subject to the availability of  
4 appropriations for such purpose, the Secretary of Veterans  
5 Affairs shall establish a program to award grants to  
6 States to assist the employment of veterans.

7 (b) ELIGIBILITY.—The Secretary may award a grant  
8 under this section to a State that—

9 (1) is carrying out a program to assist the em-  
10 ployment of veterans; or

11 (2) was carrying out such a program but does  
12 not have sufficient funding to continue the program.

13 (c) USE OF GRANT.—A State may use a grant award-  
14 ed under this section to provide veterans with—

15 (1) quarterly job fairs or other similar forums  
16 in which the State assists veterans in meeting poten-  
17 tial employers;

18 (2) employment resources on an Internet Web  
19 site, including through maintaining or establishing a  
20 Web site containing job listings, a resume bank, or  
21 employment advice or other information;

22 (3) in-person employment assistance, including  
23 resume-building and job-placement services;

24 (4) workshops or seminars that cover business  
25 or office conduct, the job interview process, how to  
26 apply for a job, and other similar information; and

1           (5) training of technology skills, including train-  
2           ing with respect to the Internet and widely used  
3           word-processing, spreadsheet, and presentation soft-  
4           ware.

5           (d) NUMBER AND AMOUNT OF GRANTS.—

6           (1) NUMBER.—The Secretary may award more  
7           than one grant under this section to a State.

8           (2) AMOUNT.—A grant awarded under this sec-  
9           tion may not exceed \$100,000.

10          (e) APPLICATION.—To be eligible for a grant under  
11          this section, a State shall submit to the Secretary an appli-  
12          cation at such time, in such manner, and containing such  
13          information as the Secretary may require.

14          (f) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is  
15          authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary to carry  
16          out this section a total of \$5,000,000.

17       **SEC. 3. EXTENSION AND MODIFICATION OF WORK OPPOR-**  
18                               **TUNITY TAX CREDIT FOR CERTAIN VET-**  
19                               **ERANS.**

20          (a) TEMPORARY EXTENSION AND INCREASE.—Sub-  
21          paragraph (A) of section 51(d)(14) of the Internal Rev-  
22          enue Code of 1986 is amended—

23               (1) by striking “unemployed veteran or”,

24               (2) by inserting “, or any unemployed veteran  
25          who begins work for the employer after December

1 31, 2011, and before January 1, 2017,” after “or  
2 2010”, and

3 (3) by inserting before the period at the end the  
4 following: “, and subsection (b)(3) shall be applied  
5 with respect to any such unemployed veteran by sub-  
6 stituting ‘\$14,000’ for ‘\$6,000’”.

7 (b) PERMANENT RULE FOR VETERAN-OWNED BUSI-  
8 NESS.—Paragraph (14) of section 51(d) of such Code is  
9 amended by adding at the end the following new subpara-  
10 graph:

11 “(C) SPECIAL RULE FOR VETERAN-OWNED  
12 EMPLOYER.—

13 “(i) IN GENERAL.—In the case of an  
14 unemployed veteran who begins work for a  
15 veteran-owned employer after December  
16 31, 2016, and was hired through a State  
17 job fair or forum described in section  
18 2(c)(1) of the Heroes Hiring Heroes Act of  
19 2011—

20 “(I) such unemployed veteran  
21 shall be treated as a member of a tar-  
22 geted group for purposes of this sub-  
23 part, and

24 “(II) subsection (a) shall be ap-  
25 plied by increasing by 20 percent the

1 percentage applicable to the qualified  
2 first-year wages of such employee.

3 “(ii) VETERAN-OWNED EMPLOYER.—

4 The term ‘veteran-owned employer’ means  
5 any employer who is a person listed in the  
6 database maintained by the Secretary of  
7 Defense under section 8127(f) of title 38,  
8 United States Code, as a small business  
9 concern which is owned and controlled by  
10 veterans.”.

11 (c) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Paragraph (4) of  
12 section 51(c) of such Code is amended by adding at the  
13 end the following new flush sentence:

14 “The preceding sentence shall not apply to wages paid or  
15 incurred to an unemployed veteran.”.

16 (d) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by  
17 this section shall apply to individuals who begin work for  
18 the employer after December 31, 2011.

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