

111TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 4073

To amend title 38, United States Code, to increase the payments to certain veterans for certain travel expenses.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NOVEMBER 16, 2009

Mr. MINNICK (for himself, Mr. SHULER, Mr. BOUCHER, Mr. DAVIS of Tennessee, Mr. KISSELL, Mr. TEAGUE, Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania, Mr. MICHAUD, and Mrs. KIRKPATRICK of Arizona) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs

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## A BILL

To amend title 38, United States Code, to increase the payments to certain veterans for certain travel expenses.

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 Reim-  
5 bursement Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. INCREASED PAYMENTS FOR TRAVEL.**

7 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 111 of title 38, United  
8 States Code, is amended—

1           (1) in subsection (a), by inserting “in accord-  
2           ance with subsection (i)” after “including lodging  
3           and subsistence”; and

4           (2) by adding at the end the following new sub-  
5           section:

6           “(i)(1) Notwithstanding subsection (g)(2)(A), in de-  
7           termining the amount of allowances or reimbursement to  
8           be paid under this section to a veteran described in para-  
9           graph (2) for lodging and subsistence expenses, the Sec-  
10          retary shall use the amount that is equal to the amount  
11          that would be payable or reimbursable under subchapter  
12          I of chapter 57 of title 5, United States Code, if such vet-  
13          eran were an employee of the Department of Veterans Af-  
14          fairs traveling on official business away from the employ-  
15          ee’s home.

16          “(2) A veteran described in this paragraph is a vet-  
17          eran eligible for payments under subsection (b)(1) if such  
18          veteran—

19                 “(A) is traveling in connection with—

20                         “(i) treatment or care for a service-con-  
21                         nected disability; or

22                         “(ii) a scheduled compensation and pension  
23                         examination; and

24                 “(B) such travel—

1           “(i) is more than 150 miles from the resi-  
2           dence of the veteran; or

3           “(ii) requires lodging and subsistence be-  
4           cause of inclement weather, as determined by  
5           the Secretary.”.

6           (b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—Subsection (i) of section 111  
7 of title 38, United States Code, as added by subsection  
8 (a), shall take effect on the date that is 30 days after the  
9 date of the enactment of this Act.

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