

115TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# H. R. 5152

To direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to establish a grant program for eligible nonprofit organizations to carry out positive psychology reconditioning programs for veterans.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 1, 2018

Mr. NOLAN introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs

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## A BILL

To direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to establish a grant program for eligible nonprofit organizations to carry out positive psychology reconditioning programs for veterans.

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. POSITIVE PSYCHOLOGY RECONDITIONING**  
4 **PROGRAM GRANTS.**

5 (a) GRANT PROGRAM.—The Secretary of Veterans  
6 Affairs shall establish a grant program under which the  
7 Secretary shall award grants to eligible entities to carry

1 out positive psychology reconditioning programs for vet-  
2 erans.

3 (b) AMOUNT OF GRANT.—Each grant awarded by the  
4 Secretary under subsection (a) may not exceed \$750,000.

5 (c) ELIGIBLE ENTITIES.—An entity is eligible to re-  
6 ceive a grant under subsection (a) if the entity is a non-  
7 profit organization that is described in section 501(c)(3)  
8 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 and that is exempt  
9 from taxation under section 501(a) of such Code.

10 (d) PRIORITY OF AWARD.—In selecting eligible enti-  
11 ties to award a grant under subsection (a), the Secretary  
12 shall prioritize entities that, before the date of the award,  
13 carry out programs using positive psychology recondi-  
14 tioning techniques.

15 (e) USE OF GRANTS.—In determining the positive  
16 psychology reconditioning techniques to be carried out  
17 under a grant awarded under subsection (a), the Secretary  
18 shall consider the following:

19 (1) The use of an initial camaraderie and bond-  
20 ing experience to initiate the rebuilding of veteran  
21 social relationships in one or more groups of 12 vet-  
22 erans or less (which may be carried out simulta-  
23 neously).

24 (2) The use of highly qualified instructors to  
25 lead appropriate physical workouts and group dis-

1 cussion occurring not fewer than three times per  
2 week during a program period that is at least three  
3 months.

4 (3) Programs that appropriately introduce local  
5 civilians to the veterans participating in the program  
6 and have such local civilians become participating  
7 members of the group in the program.

8 (4) Programs that encourage the full reentry of  
9 veterans back into society and that graduate the  
10 participating veterans who are adjusted to living in  
11 a civilian world.

12 (5) Programs that expose a group of veterans  
13 to common social experiences in the location in  
14 which the program is carried out.

15 (6) Programs that practice positive psychology  
16 techniques, including daily gratitude journaling and  
17 mindfulness, to increase physical and mental well-  
18 being throughout the program.

19 (f) RECORDS.—The Secretary may not require an eli-  
20 gible entity that is awarded a grant under subsection (a)  
21 to maintain records on veterans seeking support or partici-  
22 pating in a program under such grant, or to report any  
23 personally identifying information directly or indirectly to  
24 the Secretary about such veterans.

1 (g) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is  
2 authorized to be appropriated a total of \$15,000,000 to  
3 carry out this section during fiscal years 2019 through  
4 2021.

5 (h) VETERAN DEFINED.—In this section, the term  
6 “veteran” has the meaning given that term in section  
7 101(2) of title 38, United States Code, and includes any  
8 person who is entitled under chapter 1223 of title 10,  
9 United States Code, to retired pay for nonregular service  
10 or, but for age, would be entitled under such chapter to  
11 retired pay for nonregular service.

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