

114TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 171

To amend title 38, United States Code, to provide for coverage under the beneficiary travel program of the Department of Veterans Affairs of certain disabled veterans for travel in connection with certain special disabilities rehabilitation, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JANUARY 13, 2015

Mr. TESTER introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs

A BILL

To amend title 38, United States Code, to provide for coverage under the beneficiary travel program of the Department of Veterans Affairs of certain disabled veterans for travel in connection with certain special disabilities rehabilitation, 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,*

1 **SECTION 1. COVERAGE UNDER DEPARTMENT OF VET-**
2 **ERANS AFFAIRS BENEFICIARY TRAVEL PRO-**
3 **GRAM OF TRAVEL IN CONNECTION WITH**
4 **CERTAIN SPECIAL DISABILITIES REHABILI-**
5 **TATION.**

6 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 111(b)(1) of title 38,
7 United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the
8 following new subparagraph:

9 “(G) A veteran with vision impairment, a vet-
10 eran with a spinal cord injury or disorder, or a vet-
11 eran with double or multiple amputations whose
12 travel is in connection with care provided through a
13 special disabilities rehabilitation program of the De-
14 partment (including programs provided by spinal
15 cord injury centers, blind rehabilitation centers, and
16 prosthetics rehabilitation centers) if such care is pro-
17 vided—

18 “(i) on an in-patient basis; or

19 “(ii) during a period in which the Sec-
20 retary provides the veteran with temporary
21 lodging at a facility of the Department to make
22 such care more accessible to the veteran.”.

23 (b) REPORT.—Not later than 180 days after the date
24 of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Veterans
25 Affairs shall submit to the Committee on Veterans’ Affairs
26 of the Senate and the Committee on Veterans’ Affairs of

1 the House of Representatives a report on the beneficiary
2 travel program under section 111 of title 38, United
3 States Code, as amended by subsection (a), that includes
4 the following:

5 (1) The cost of the program.

6 (2) The number of veterans served by the pro-
7 gram.

8 (3) Such other matters as the Secretary con-
9 siders appropriate.

10 (c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by
11 subsection (a) shall take effect on the first day of the first
12 fiscal year that begins after the date of the enactment of
13 this Act.

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