

118TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 2431

To require the Secretary of Labor, in coordination with the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, to carry out a grant program to assist certain members or former members of the Armed Forces in transitioning to civilian life, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JULY 20, 2023

Mr. BENNET (for himself, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. HICKENLOOPER, and Mr. RISCH) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs

A BILL

To require the Secretary of Labor, in coordination with the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, to carry out a grant program to assist certain members or former members of the Armed Forces in transitioning to civilian life, 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 “HUBS for Veterans
5 Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. GRANTS FOR PROVISION OF TRANSITION ASSIST-**
2 **ANCE TO MEMBERS AND FORMER MEMBERS**
3 **OF THE ARMED FORCES AFTER SEPARATION,**
4 **RETIREMENT, OR DISCHARGE.**

5 (a) DEFINITIONS.—

6 (1) IN GENERAL.—In this section:

7 (A) COVERED INDIVIDUALS.—The term
8 “covered individual” means—

9 (i) a member of the Armed Forces
10 who is eligible for preseparation counseling
11 under sections 1142 and 1144 of title 10,
12 United States Code;

13 (ii) a former member of the Armed
14 Forces who is transitioning from service in
15 the Armed Forces to civilian life; or

16 (iii) a spouse of a member described
17 in clause (i) or a former member described
18 in clause (ii).

19 (B) ELIGIBLE ORGANIZATIONS.—The term
20 “eligible organization” means any nonprofit or-
21 ganization (including a veterans service organi-
22 zation), State board, or local board, that the
23 Secretary of Labor determines, in consultation
24 with the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, is suit-
25 able for receipt of a grant under this section
26 pursuant to receipt by the Secretary of Labor

1 of an application submitted under subsection
2 (e)(1).

3 (C) NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION.—The
4 term “nonprofit organization” means an organi-
5 zation that is described in section 501(c)(3) of
6 the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 and is ex-
7 empt from taxation under section 501(a) of
8 such Code.

9 (D) SECRETARY CONCERNED.—The term
10 “Secretary concerned” has the meaning given
11 such term in section 101 of title 10, United
12 States Code.

13 (E) SUPPORTIVE SERVICES.—The term
14 “supportive services” means services such as
15 transportation, child care, dependent care,
16 housing, and needs-related payments, that are
17 necessary to enable an individual to participate
18 in activities supported under this Act.

19 (F) TRANSITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM.—
20 The term “Transition Assistance Program”
21 means the Transition Assistance Program
22 under sections 1142 and 1144 of title 10,
23 United States Code.

24 (G) VETERANS SERVICE ORGANIZATION.—
25 The term “veterans service organization”

1 means an organization recognized by the Sec-
2 retary of Veterans Affairs for the representa-
3 tion of veterans under section 5902 of title 38,
4 United States Code.

5 (2) WIOA TERMS.—Except as otherwise pro-
6 vided, any term used in this Act that is defined in
7 section 3 of the Workforce Innovation and Oppor-
8 tunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3102) shall have the meaning
9 given to such term in such section.

10 (b) GRANT PROGRAM.—Not later than 180 days after
11 the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Labor
12 shall, in coordination with the Secretary of Veterans Af-
13 fairs, carry out a program to award grants to eligible orga-
14 nizations for the provision of assistance to covered individ-
15 uals on the transition of a member or former member of
16 the Armed Forces from service in the Armed Forces to
17 civilian life.

18 (c) DURATION OF PROGRAM.—The Secretary of
19 Labor shall carry out the program under this section dur-
20 ing the 5-year period beginning on the date of the com-
21 mencement of the program.

22 (d) GRANTS.—

23 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Labor shall
24 carry out the program under this section through

1 the award of grants to eligible organizations for the
2 provision of assistance described in subsection (b).

3 (2) MATCHING FUNDS REQUIRED.—A grant
4 under this section shall be in an amount that does
5 not exceed 50 percent of the amount required by the
6 organization to provide the services described in sub-
7 section (f).

8 (e) SELECTION OF GRANT RECIPIENTS.—

9 (1) APPLICATIONS.—An organization seeking a
10 grant under this section shall submit to the Sec-
11 retary of Labor an application for such grant at
12 such time, in such manner, and containing such in-
13 formation and assurances as the Secretary, in con-
14 sultation with the Secretary of Veterans Affairs,
15 may require.

16 (2) PRIORITY FOR HUBS OF SERVICES.—In
17 awarding grants under this section, the Secretary of
18 Labor shall give priority to an organization that pro-
19 vides multiple forms of services described in sub-
20 section (f).

21 (f) USE OF FUNDS.—The recipient of a grant under
22 this section shall use the grant to coordinate for covered
23 individuals any of the following:

1 (1) Career and training services, including the
2 provision of such services available through a work-
3 force development system.

4 (2) Mental health services provided by a pro-
5 vider of the Department of Veterans Affairs or
6 through a nonprofit organization.

7 (3) Legal assistance.

8 (4) Supportive services.

9 (5) Assistance with accessing benefits provided
10 under laws administered by the Secretary of Vet-
11 erans Affairs.

12 (6) Non-clinical case management.

13 (7) Entrepreneurship training.

14 (8) Such other services that may be related to
15 the assistance and services set forth in this sub-
16 section as the Secretary of Labor, in consultation
17 with the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, determines
18 may lead directly to successful transition to civilian
19 life.

20 (g) INCLUSION IN TRANSITION ASSISTANCE PRO-
21 GRAM COUNSELING.—The Secretary concerned shall in-
22 clude in the information provided to a member of the
23 Armed Forces during the Transition Assistance Program
24 information regarding any recipient of a grant under this
25 section that is located in the community in which that

1 member will reside after separation, retirement, or dis-
2 charge from the Armed Forces.

3 (h) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is
4 authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary of Labor
5 \$2,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2024 through 2028
6 to carry out this section.

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