

107TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 984

To improve the Veterans Beneficiary Travel Program of the Department
of Veterans Affairs.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JUNE 5, 2001

Mr. ENZI (for himself and Ms. SNOWE) introduced the following bill; which
was read twice and referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs

A BILL

To improve the Veterans Beneficiary Travel Program of the
Department of Veterans Affairs.

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 “Veterans Road to
5 Health Care Act of 2001”.

6 **SEC. 2. IMPROVEMENT OF VETERANS BENEFICIARY TRAV-**
7 **EL PROGRAM.**

8 (a) PAYMENTS FOR CERTAIN ADDITIONAL MEDICAL
9 CARE.—(1) Section 111(b)(1) of title 38, United States

1 Code, is amended by adding at the end the following new
 2 subparagraph:

3 “(G) A veteran whose travel is in connection
 4 with treatment or care for a non-service-connected
 5 disability at non-Department facility if the treatment
 6 or care—

7 “(i) is provided upon the recommendation
 8 of medical personnel of the Department; and

9 “(ii) is not available at the Department fa-
 10 cility at which such recommendation is made.”.

11 (2) The amendment made by paragraph (1) shall
 12 take effect on October 1, 2001, and shall apply with re-
 13 spect to fiscal years after fiscal year 2001.

14 (b) CALCULATION OF EXPENSES OF TRAVEL.—(1)
 15 Notwithstanding any other provision of law, in calculating
 16 expenses of travel for purposes of the Veterans Beneficiary
 17 Travel Program, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall
 18 utilize the current mileage reimbursement rates for the
 19 use on official business of privately owned vehicles pre-
 20 scribed by the Administrator of General Services under
 21 section 5707(b) of title 5, United States Code.

22 (2) In this subsection, the term “Veterans Bene-
 23 ficiary Travel Program” means the program of payment
 24 or reimbursement for necessary expenses of travel of vet-
 25 erans and their beneficiaries prescribed under sections 111

1 and 1728 of title 38, United States Code, and under any
2 other provisions of law administered by the Secretary of
3 Veterans Affairs for payment or reimbursement for such
4 expenses of travel.

○