

110TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1370

To amend title 38, United States Code, to establish in the Department of Veterans Affairs an Office of National Veterans Sports Programs and Special Events.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 7, 2007

Mr. BUYER (for himself, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mr. BURTON of Indiana, Mr. BILL-RAKIS, Ms. HERSETH, and Mr. LAMBORN) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs

A BILL

To amend title 38, United States Code, to establish in the Department of Veterans Affairs an Office of National Veterans Sports Programs and Special Events.

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 “Disabled Veterans
5 Sports and Special Events Promotion Act of 2007”.

1 **SEC. 2. DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS OFFICE OF**
2 **NATIONAL VETERANS SPORTS PROGRAMS**
3 **AND SPECIAL EVENTS.**

4 (a) ESTABLISHMENT OF OFFICE OF NATIONAL VET-
5 ERANS SPORTS PROGRAMS AND SPECIAL EVENTS.—
6 Chapter 3 of title 38, United States Code, is amended by
7 adding at the end the following new section:

8 **“§ 321. Office of National Veterans Sports Programs**
9 **and Special Events**

10 “(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is in the Department
11 an Office of National Veterans Sports Programs and Spe-
12 cial Events. There is at the head of the Office a Director.

13 “(b) RESPONSIBILITIES OF DIRECTOR.—Subject to
14 the direction of the Secretary, the Director—

15 “(1) shall establish and carry out qualifying
16 programs and events;

17 “(2) may provide for sponsorship by the De-
18 partment of qualifying programs and events;

19 “(3) may provide for, facilitate, and encourage
20 participation by disabled veterans in qualifying pro-
21 grams and events; and

22 “(4) shall cooperate with the United States
23 Olympic Committee and its subsidiaries to promote
24 the participation of disabled veterans in sporting
25 events sponsored by the United States Olympic
26 Committee and its subsidiaries.

1 “(c) QUALIFYING PROGRAM OR EVENT.—For pur-
2 poses of this section, a qualifying program or event is a
3 sports program or other event in which veterans with dis-
4 abilities participate and that is approved by the Secretary
5 as being consistent with the goals and missions of the De-
6 partment.

7 “(d) MONTHLY ASSISTANCE ALLOWANCE.—(1) The
8 Director may provide a monthly assistance allowance to
9 a veteran with a service-connected disability for any month
10 in which the veteran is participating in any event sanc-
11 tioned by the United States Olympic Committee or who
12 is residing at a United States Olympic Committee training
13 center.

14 “(2) The amount of the monthly assistance payable
15 to a veteran under paragraph (1) shall be equal to the
16 monthly amount of subsistence allowance that would be
17 payable to the veteran under chapter 31 of this title if
18 the veteran were eligible for and entitled to rehabilitation
19 under such chapter.

20 “(3) Any amount of assistance paid to a veteran
21 under this subsection shall be in addition to any other as-
22 sistance available to the veteran under any other provision
23 of law.

24 “(e) SUPPORT FOR UNITED STATES OLYMPIC COM-
25 MITTEE MILITARY PARALYMPIC PROGRAM.—(1) The Sec-

1 retary shall enter into a memorandum of understanding
2 with the United States Olympic Committee under which
3 the Secretary shall agree to provide support, including di-
4 rect support and reimbursement for Committee expendi-
5 tures, for the military paralympic program of the Com-
6 mittee.

7 “(2) In the documents providing detailed information
8 on the budget for the Department that the Secretary sub-
9 mits to Congress in conjunction with the President’s budg-
10 et submission for each fiscal year pursuant to section 1105
11 of title 31, the Secretary shall set forth separately the
12 amount requested to carry out this section under the fol-
13 lowing heading: ‘United States Olympic Committee Mili-
14 tary Paralympic Program Support’.

15 “(3) There is authorized to be appropriated to carry
16 out this subsection \$2,000,000 for each fiscal year.”.

17 (b) DEADLINE FOR MEMORANDUM OF UNDER-
18 STANDING.—Not later than 90 days after the date of the
19 enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs
20 shall enter into the memorandum of understanding with
21 the United States Olympic Committee required under sec-
22 tion 321(e)(1) of title 38, United States Code, as added
23 by subsection (a).

1 (c) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections
2 at the beginning of such chapter is amended by adding
3 at the end the following new item:

“321. Office of National Veterans Sports Programs and Special Events.”.

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