

113TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 1403

To amend title 49, United States Code, to direct the Assistant Secretary of Homeland Security (Transportation Security Administration) to facilitate the screening of severely injured or disabled members of the Armed Forces and severely injured or disabled veterans at airports, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JULY 31, 2013

Mr. PRYOR (for himself and Ms. AYOTTE) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

A BILL

To amend title 49, United States Code, to direct the Assistant Secretary of Homeland Security (Transportation Security Administration) to facilitate the screening of severely injured or disabled members of the Armed Forces and severely injured or disabled veterans at airports, 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 “Helping Heroes Fly
5 Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. FACILITATION OF PASSENGER SCREENING FOR SE-**
2 **VERELY INJURED OR DISABLED MEMBERS**
3 **OF THE ARMED FORCES AND SEVERELY IN-**
4 **JURED OR DISABLED VETERANS.**

5 (a) IN GENERAL.—Subchapter I of chapter 449 of
6 title 49, United States Code, is amended by adding at the
7 end the following new section:

8 **“§ 44927. Facilitation of passenger screening for se-**
9 **verely injured or disabled members of**
10 **the Armed Forces and severely injured or**
11 **disabled veterans**

12 “(a) PASSENGER SCREENING.—The Assistant Sec-
13 retary of Homeland Security (Transportation Security Ad-
14 ministration), in consultation with the Secretary of De-
15 fense, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, and organizations
16 described in subsection (b), shall develop and implement
17 a process to support severely injured or disabled members
18 of the Armed Forces and severely injured or disabled vet-
19 erans during, and to facilitate the movement of such mem-
20 bers and veterans through, the screening of passengers be-
21 fore boarding passenger aircraft required by section
22 44901(a) (in this section referred to as ‘passenger screen-
23 ing’). The process required under this subsection shall in-
24 clude offering private screening for such members and vet-
25 erans to the maximum extent practicable.

1 “(b) ORGANIZATIONS DESCRIBED.—Organizations
2 described in this subsection are organizations identified by
3 the Secretary of Defense and the Secretary of Veterans
4 Affairs that advocate on behalf of severely injured or dis-
5 abled members of the Armed Forces and severely injured
6 or disabled veterans.

7 “(c) OPERATIONS CENTER.—As part of the process
8 required under subsection (a), the Assistant Secretary
9 shall maintain an operations center to provide support for
10 severely injured or disabled members of the Armed Forces
11 and severely injured or disabled veterans during, and to
12 facilitate the movement of such members and veterans
13 through, passenger screening.

14 “(d) PROTOCOLS.—The Assistant Secretary shall—

15 “(1) establish and publish protocols, in con-
16 sultation with the Secretary of Defense, the Sec-
17 retary of Veterans Affairs, and organizations de-
18 scribed in subsection (b), under which a severely in-
19 jured or disabled member of the Armed Forces or
20 severely injured or disabled veteran, or the family
21 member or other representative of such a member or
22 veteran, may contact the operations center main-
23 tained under subsection (c) and request support dur-
24 ing and facilitation of passenger screening for the
25 member or veteran; and

1 “(2) upon receipt of such a request, require the
2 operations center to notify the appropriate Federal
3 Security Director of the request.

4 “(e) TRAINING.—The Assistant Secretary shall inte-
5 grate training on the protocols established under sub-
6 section (c) into the training provided to all employees who
7 will regularly conduct passenger screening.

8 “(f) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this sec-
9 tion affects the authority of the Assistant Secretary to re-
10 quire additional screening of a severely injured or disabled
11 member of the Armed Forces or a severely injured or dis-
12 abled veteran if intelligence, law enforcement, or other in-
13 formation indicates that additional screening is necessary.

14 “(g) REPORT.—Not later than one year after the
15 date of the enactment of this section, and annually there-
16 after, the Assistant Secretary shall submit to Congress a
17 report on the implementation of this section. Each such
18 report shall include each of the following:

19 “(1) Information on the training provided
20 under subsection (d).

21 “(2) Information on the consultations between
22 the Assistant Secretary and organizations described
23 in subsection (b).

