

114TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 288

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 for certain special disabilities rehabilitation, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 13, 2015

Ms. BROWNLEY of California (for herself, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, and Mr. MEEKS) introduced the following bill; which was 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 for 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,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Veterans Medical Ac-
5 cess Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. COVERAGE UNDER DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AF-**
2 **FAIRS BENEFICIARY TRAVEL PROGRAM OF**
3 **CERTAIN DISABLED VETERANS FOR TRAVEL**
4 **FOR CERTAIN SPECIAL DISABILITIES REHA-**
5 **BILITATION.**

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 spinal cord injury center pro-
15 grams, blind rehabilitation center programs, and
16 prosthetics rehabilitation center programs) if such
17 care is provided—

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 Committees on Veterans’ Af-
26 fairs of the House of Representatives and the Senate a

1 report on the beneficiary travel program under section 111
2 of title 38, United States Code, including—

3 (1) the cost of the program;

4 (2) the number of veterans served by the pro-
5 gram; and

6 (3) any other matters the Secretary considers
7 appropriate.

○