

116TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 485

To amend title 38, United States Code, to provide for the circumstances under which the Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall provide reimbursement for emergency ambulance services.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 10, 2019

Mr. TIPTON (for himself, Ms. DELAURO, and Mr. WITTMAN) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs

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## A BILL

To amend title 38, United States Code, to provide for the circumstances under which the Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall provide reimbursement for emergency ambulance services.

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 Reimburse-  
5 ment for Emergency Ambulance Services Act” or the  
6 “VREASA”.

1 **SEC. 2. SECRETARY OF VETERANS AFFAIRS REIMBURSE-**  
2 **MENT FOR EMERGENCY AMBULANCE SERV-**  
3 **ICES.**

4 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 1725(c) of title 38,  
5 United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the  
6 following new paragraph:

7 “(5) In delineating the circumstances under which re-  
8 imbursement may be made under this section for ambu-  
9 lance services for an individual, the Secretary shall treat  
10 such services as emergency services for which reimburse-  
11 ment may be made under this section if the Secretary de-  
12 termines that—

13 “(A) the request for ambulance services was  
14 made as a result of the sudden onset of a medical  
15 condition of such a nature that a prudent layperson  
16 who possesses an average knowledge of health and  
17 medicine—

18 “(i) would have reasonably expected that a  
19 delay in seeking immediate medical attention  
20 would have been hazardous to the life or health  
21 of the individual; or

22 “(ii) could reasonably expect the absence  
23 of immediate medical attention to result in  
24 placing the health of the individual in serious  
25 jeopardy, the serious impairment of bodily func-

1           tions, or the serious dysfunction of any bodily  
2           organ or part; and

3           “(B) the individual is transported to the closest  
4           and most appropriate medical facility capable of  
5           treating such emergency medical condition.”.

6           (b) **EFFECTIVE DATE.**—The amendment made by  
7           subsection (a) shall apply with respect to ambulance serv-  
8           ices provided on or after January 1, 2019.

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