

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

Mr. BLUNT. Mr. President, I have 2 requests for committees to meet during today's session of the Senate. They have the approval of the Majority and Minority leaders.

Pursuant to Rule XXVI, paragraph 5(a), of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the following committees are authorized to meet during today's session of the Senate:

COMMITTEE ON BANKING, HOUSING, AND URBAN AFFAIRS

The Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, September 10, 2019, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

The Select Committee on Intelligence is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, September 10, 2019, at 2:30 p.m., to conduct a closed briefing.

PRIVILEGES OF THE FLOOR

Mr. CASSIDY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that my new press assistant, Cole Avery, be granted privileges of the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

VETERANS EXPEDITED TSA SCREENING SAFE TRAVEL ACT

Mr. CASSIDY. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee be discharged from further consideration of S. 1881 and the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The clerk will report the bill by title.

The senior assistant bill clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 1881) to provide PreCheck to certain severely injured or disabled veterans, and for other purposes.

There being no objection, the committee was discharged and the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. CASSIDY. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the bill be considered read a third time and passed and that the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The bill (S. 1881) was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, was read the third time, and passed as follows:

S. 1881

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Veterans Expedited TSA Screening Safe Travel Act" or the "VETS Safe Travel Act".

SEC. 2. AVAILABILITY OF PRECHECK PROGRAM TO CERTAIN SEVERELY INJURED OR DISABLED VETERANS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 44927 of title 49, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(g) AVAILABILITY OF PRECHECK PROGRAM TO CERTAIN SEVERELY INJURED OR DISABLED VETERANS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—A veteran described in paragraph (2) is eligible for security screening under the PreCheck Program under section 44919 at no cost to the veteran if the veteran is able to meet the background check and other security requirements for participation in the program.

“(2) VETERANS DESCRIBED.—A veteran described in this paragraph is a veteran determined by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs—

“(A)(i) to have had a loss, or loss of use, of a limb;

“(ii) to have become paralyzed or partially paralyzed; or

“(iii) to have incurred permanent blindness; and

“(B) as a result of that loss, paralyzation or partial paralyzation, or blindness, to require the use of a wheelchair, prosthetic limb, or other assistive device to aid with mobility.”.

(b) COORDINATION ON IMPLEMENTATION.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Administrator of the Transportation Security Administration and the Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall jointly—

(1) develop and implement a process for providing the Transportation Security Administration with access to the data needed to validate the eligibility of a veteran for the PreCheck Program under section 44927(g) of title 49, United States Code, as added by subsection (a); and

(2) submit to Congress a report on the status of implementing the process required by paragraph (1).

TSA CREDENTIAL AND ENDORSEMENT HARMONIZATION ACT OF 2019

Mr. CASSIDY. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee be discharged from further consideration of S. 2035 and the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The clerk will report the bill by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 2035) to require the Transportation Security Administration to develop a strategic plan to expand eligibility for the PreCheck Program to individuals with Transportation Worker Identification Credentials or Hazardous Materials Endorsements.

There being no objection, the committee was discharged and the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. CASSIDY. Madam President, I further ask unanimous consent that the bill be considered read a third time and passed and that the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The bill (S. 2035) was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, was read the third time, and passed as follows:

S. 2035

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "TSA Credential and Endorsement Harmonization Act of 2019".

SEC. 2. STRATEGIC PLAN TO EXPAND PRECHECK PROGRAM.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Administrator of the Transportation Security Administration shall develop a strategic plan to expand eligibility for the PreCheck Program under section 44919 of title 49, United States Code, to individuals who have—

(1) a Transportation Worker Identification Credential issued under section 70105 of title 46, United States Code; or

(2) a Hazardous Materials Endorsement under the Hazardous Materials Endorsement Threat Assessment Program on the State-issued commercial driver's license of the individual.

(b) ELEMENTS.—In developing the strategic plan required by subsection (a), the Administrator shall ensure that the plan—

(1) allows individuals described in subsection (a) to opt in to the PreCheck Program; and

(2) provides the Transportation Security Administration with the discretion—

(A) to determine whether an individual described in subsection (a) meets the eligibility requirements for the Program; and

(B) to establish alternative fee structures for the Program.

(c) BRIEFING TO CONGRESS.—Not later than 30 days after developing the strategic plan required by subsection (a), the Administrator shall brief the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate and the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives on the strategic plan.

ORDERS FOR WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2019

Mr. CASSIDY. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn until 9:30 a.m., Wednesday, September 11; further, that following the prayer and pledge, the morning hour be deemed expired and the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day, morning business be closed, and the Senate proceed to executive session and resume consideration of the Akard nomination under the previous order.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 9:30 A.M. TOMORROW

Mr. CASSIDY. Mr. President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask that it stand adjourned under the previous order.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 5:45 p.m., adjourned until Wednesday, September 11, 2019, at 9:30 a.m.