

AMENDMENT TO RULES COMMITTEE PRINT 116-
19
OFFERED BY MR. MCGOVERN OF
MASSACHUSETTS

At the end of subtitle C of title VII, add the following:

1 SEC. 7____. WOUNDED WARRIOR SERVICE DOG PROGRAM.

2 (a) GRANTS AUTHORIZED.—Subject to the avail-
3 ability of appropriations provided for such purpose, the
4 Secretary of Defense shall establish a program, to be
5 known as the “Wounded Warrior Service Dog Program”,
6 to award competitive grants to nonprofit organizations to
7 assist such organizations in the planning, designing, estab-
8 lishing, or operating (or any combination thereof) of pro-
9 grams to provide assistance dogs to covered members.

10 (b) USE OF FUNDS.—

11 (1) IN GENERAL.—The recipient of a grant
12 under this section shall use the grant to carry out
13 programs that provide assistance dogs to covered
14 members who have a disability described in para-
15 graph (2).

16 (2) DISABILITY.—A disability described in this
17 paragraph is any of the following:

1 (A) Blindness or visual impairment.

2 (B) Loss of use of a limb, paralysis, or
3 other significant mobility issues.

4 (C) Loss of hearing.

5 (D) Traumatic brain injury.

6 (E) Post-traumatic stress disorder.

7 (F) Any other disability that the Secretary
8 of Defense considers appropriate.

9 (3) TIMING OF AWARD.—The Secretary of De-
10 fense may not award a grant under this section to
11 reimburse a recipient for costs previously incurred
12 by the recipient in carrying out a program to provide
13 assistance dogs to covered members unless the re-
14 cipient elects for the award to be such a reimburse-
15 ment.

16 (c) ELIGIBILITY.—To be eligible to receive a grant
17 under this section, a nonprofit organization shall submit
18 an application to the Secretary of Defense at such time,
19 in such manner, and containing such information as the
20 Secretary may require. Such application shall include—

21 (1) a proposal for the evaluation required by
22 subsection (d); and

23 (2) a description of—

24 (A) the training that will be provided by
25 the organization to covered members;

1 (B) the training of dogs that will serve as
2 assistance dogs;

3 (C) the aftercare services that the organi-
4 zation will provide for such dogs and covered
5 members;

6 (D) the plan for publicizing the availability
7 of such dogs through a targeted marketing
8 campaign to covered members;

9 (E) the recognized expertise of the organi-
10 zation in breeding and training such dogs;

11 (F) the commitment of the organization to
12 humane standards for animals; and

13 (G) the experience of the organization with
14 working with military medical treatment facili-
15 ties; and

16 (3) a statement certifying that the organiza-
17 tion—

18 (A) is accredited by Assistance Dogs Inter-
19 national, the International Guide Dog Federa-
20 tion, or another similar widely recognized ac-
21 creditation organization that the Secretaries de-
22 termine has accreditation standards that meet
23 or exceed the standards of Assistance Dogs
24 International and the International Guide Dog
25 Federation; or

1 (B) is a candidate for such accreditation or
2 otherwise meets or exceeds such standards, as
3 determined by the Secretary of Defense.

4 (d) EVALUATION.—The Secretary of Defense shall
5 require each recipient of a grant to use a portion of the
6 funds made available through the grant to conduct an
7 evaluation of the effectiveness of the activities carried out
8 through the grant by such recipient.

9 (e) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

10 (1) ASSISTANCE DOG.—The term “assistance
11 dog” means a dog specifically trained to perform
12 physical tasks to mitigate the effects of a disability
13 described in subsection (b)(2), except that the term
14 does not include a dog specifically trained for com-
15 fort or personal defense.

16 (2) COVERED MEMBER.—The term “covered
17 member” means a member of the Armed Forces who
18 is—

19 (B) receiving medical treatment, recuper-
20 ation, or therapy under chapter 55 of title 10,
21 United States Code;

22 (C) in medical hold or medical holdover
23 status; or

24 (D) covered under section 1202 or 1205 of
25 title 10, United States Code.

1 (f) INCREASE.—Notwithstanding the amounts set
2 forth in the funding tables in division D, the amount au-
3 thorized to be appropriated in section 1405 for Other Au-
4 thorizations, Defense Health Program, as specified in the
5 corresponding funding table in section 4501, for Consoli-
6 dated Health Support is hereby increased by \$11,000,000.

7 (g) OFFSET.—Notwithstanding the amounts set forth
8 in the funding tables in division D, the amount authorized
9 to be appropriated in section 301 for Operations and
10 Maintenance, as specified in the corresponding funding
11 table in section 4301, for Operations and Maintenance,
12 Defense-Wide, Line 460, Office of the Secretary of De-
13 fense is hereby reduced by \$11,000,000.

