

109TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 2266

To establish a fellowship program for the congressional hiring of disabled veterans.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

FEBRUARY 9, 2006

Mr. SANTORUM introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

A BILL

To establish a fellowship program for the congressional hiring of disabled veterans.

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 “Disabled Veterans Fel-
5 lowship Act of 2006”.

6 **SEC. 2. CONGRESSIONAL FELLOWSHIPS.**

7 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of the Senate and
8 the Clerk of the House of Representatives shall establish
9 a program to encourage the personal offices of Members
10 of Congress, committee offices, and leadership offices to

1 hire disabled veterans for temporary staff positions under
2 the fellowship program established by this Act.

3 (b) EMPLOYMENT OF FELLOWS.—A disabled veteran
4 congressional fellow hired under this Act shall be em-
5 ployed—

6 (1) at a level of responsibility commensurate
7 with the abilities of the fellow;

8 (2) at a level of compensation appropriate to
9 the level of responsibility but not in excess of the
10 level of compensation authorized for other com-
11 parable employees of the Senate and the House of
12 Representatives; and

13 (3) for not more than a 12-month period of
14 time.

15 **SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.**

16 In this Act:

17 (1) DISABLED VETERAN.—The term “disabled
18 veteran” means a veteran with a service-connected
19 disability (as defined in section 101 of title 38,
20 United States Code) which was incurred or aggra-
21 vated in the line of duty during Operation Iraqi
22 Freedom or Operation Enduring Freedom or during
23 such other operations as may be designated under
24 regulations promulgated jointly by the Secretary of
25 the Senate and the Clerk of the House of Represent-

1 atives in consultation with the Secretary of Veterans
2 Affairs.

3 (2) DISABLED VETERAN CONGRESSIONAL FEL-
4 LOW.—The term “disabled veteran congressional fel-
5 low” means a fellow in the office of a Member of the
6 Senate or the House of Representatives or the office
7 of a committee or joint committee of the Senate or
8 the House of Representatives or leadership office of
9 the Senate or the House of Representatives who is
10 a disabled veteran.

11 (3) MEMBER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTA-
12 TIVES.—The term “Member of the House of Rep-
13 resentatives” includes a Delegate or Resident Com-
14 missioner to the Congress.

15 **SEC. 4. EXCLUSION OF DISABLED VETERAN CONGRES-**
16 **SIONAL FELLOW FROM BUDGET OF EMPLOY-**
17 **ING OFFICE AND LIMITS ON NUMBER OF EM-**
18 **PLOYEES OF EMPLOYING OFFICE.**

19 (a) TREATMENT UNDER OFFICE BUDGET.—

20 (1) SEPARATE AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIA-
21 TIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated for
22 fiscal year 2007 and each succeeding fiscal year
23 from the applicable accounts of the House of Rep-
24 resentatives or the contingent fund of the Senate
25 such amounts as may be necessary for the salaries

1 and related expenses of disabled veteran congres-
2 sional fellows during the fiscal year.

3 (2) EXCLUSION OF AMOUNTS APPROPRIATED
4 FROM GENERAL BUDGETS OF EMPLOYING OF-
5 FICES.—To the extent that amounts are appro-
6 priated pursuant to this Act for the salary and re-
7 lated expenses of a disabled veteran congressional
8 fellow for a fiscal year, such amounts shall not be
9 paid from, and shall be excluded in determining the
10 balance of—

11 (A) in the case of a disabled veteran con-
12 gressional fellow of the office of a Member of
13 the House of Representatives, the Member's
14 Representational Allowance for that office for
15 the year; and

16 (B) in the case of a disabled veteran con-
17 gressional fellow of any other office, any ac-
18 count of the Senate or the House of Represent-
19 atives from which the salaries and related ex-
20 penses of employees of the office is paid during
21 the year.

22 (b) EXCLUSION FROM LIMITS ON NUMBER OF POSI-
23 TIONS.—A disabled veteran congressional fellow shall be
24 excluded in determining the number of employees of the
25 office which employs the fellow for purposes of—

(2) in the case of any other office, any applicable provision of law or any rule or regulation which imposes a limit on the number of employees of the office.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of the Senate and the Clerk of the House of Representatives shall implement rules establishing fellowships for disabled veterans for service in the personal offices of Members of Congress, committee, offices, and leadership offices.

(b) CONTENT.—The rules promulgated by this section shall provide that the compensation of 1 disabled veteran fellow for each personal office or any Member of Congress and 1 disabled veteran fellow for each committee office and 1 disabled veteran fellow for each leadership office shall not count against the staff allowance of that Member of Congress, committee, or office.

(c) AUTHORIZATIONS.—The Architect of the Capitol shall make whatever reasonable accommodation is necessary to provide access to disabled veteran fellows hired pursuant to the provisions of this Act.

1 **SEC. 6. COMPENSATION.**

2 Any compensation received by a disabled veteran pur-
3 suant to this Act shall not affect the benefits otherwise
4 available to that disabled veteran under other provisions
5 of law.

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