

112TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 4288

To direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to provide grants to States to assist veterans with who were trained to drive large vehicles while serving in the Armed Forces in obtaining, upon their discharge or release from active duty service, State commercial drivers licenses.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 28, 2012

Ms. HAHN introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs

A BILL

To direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to provide grants to States to assist veterans with who were trained to drive large vehicles while serving in the Armed Forces in obtaining, upon their discharge or release from active duty service, State commercial drivers licenses.

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 “Commercial Drivers
5 Licenses for Veterans Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. GRANT PROGRAM TO ASSIST VETERANS TRAINED**
2 **TO DRIVE LARGE VEHICLES IN OBTAINING**
3 **COMMERCIAL DRIVERS LICENCES.**

4 (a) PROGRAM.—The Secretary of Veterans Affairs
5 shall establish a program consisting of awarding grants
6 to States to assist veterans who received and completed
7 training to drive large vehicles while serving in the Armed
8 Forces of the United States in obtaining, upon their dis-
9 charge or release from active duty service, State commer-
10 cial drivers licenses.

11 (b) USE OF FUNDS.—Amounts received as a grant
12 under this section may be used to assist veterans described
13 in subsection (a) in obtaining State commercial drivers li-
14 censes as follows:

15 (1) Providing to such veterans required course
16 work and training that take into account, and are
17 not duplicative of, course work and training received
18 when such veterans were active members of the
19 Armed Forces of the United States, to enable such
20 veterans to satisfy State requirements for obtaining
21 a commercial drivers license, as determined by the
22 appropriate State regulatory entity.

23 (2) Providing reimbursement for costs associ-
24 ated with—

25 (A) such course work and training; or

1 (B) applying for a commercial drivers li-
2 cense.

3 (3) Expediting the licensing process.

4 (c) ELIGIBILITY.—To be eligible for a grant under
5 this section, a State shall demonstrate to the Secretary's
6 satisfaction that the State has a shortage of individuals
7 with commercial drivers licenses.

8 (d) REPORT.—The Secretary shall submit to the Con-
9 gress an annual report on the program under this section.

10 (e) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—To carry
11 out this section, there are authorized to be appropriated
12 \$5,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2013 through 2017.

13 (f) GAO STUDY AND REPORT.—The Comptroller
14 General of the United States shall—

15 (1) conduct a study on the barriers experienced
16 by veterans who received training as large vehicle
17 drivers while serving in the Armed Forces of the
18 United States and, upon their discharge or release
19 from active duty service, seek to obtain State com-
20 mercial drivers licenses; and

21 (2) not later than 2 years after the date of the
22 enactment of this Act, submit to the Congress a re-
23 port on the results of such study, including rec-
24 ommendations on whether the program established
25 under this section should be expanded to assist vet-

- 1 erans seeking other type of licenses and certifi-
- 2 cations.

