

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 5989

To amend chapter 50 of title 10, United States Code, to require the Department of Defense to operate a facility capable of processing identification and eligibility systems for members of the Armed Forces and their families near large metropolitan areas, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NOVEMBER 7, 2025

Mr. WIED (for himself and Mr. TIFFANY) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Armed Services

A BILL

To amend chapter 50 of title 10, United States Code, to require the Department of Defense to operate a facility capable of processing identification and eligibility systems for members of the Armed Forces and their families near large metropolitan areas, and for other purposes.

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 “Supporting Troops’
5 Access to Recognition Services Act” or “STARS Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF DE-**
2 **FENSE TO MAINTAIN IDENTIFICATION AND**
3 **ELIGIBILITY FACILITIES WITHIN 30 MILES OF**
4 **MAJOR METROPOLITAN AREAS.**

5 Chapter 50 of title 10, United States Code, is amend-
6 ed by adding at the end the following new section:

7 **“§ 996. Requirements for locations of facilities pro-**
8 **viding identification and eligibility serv-**
9 **ices**

10 “(a) REQUIREMENT.—The Secretary of Defense shall
11 ensure that—

12 “(1) a covered identification and eligibility facil-
13 ity is located not more than a 30 mile distance from
14 each metropolitan statistical area (as defined by the
15 Director of the Office of Management and Budget)
16 with a population of 300,000 or more according to
17 the most recent United States census population es-
18 timates available; and

19 “(2) each such covered identification and eligi-
20 bility facility is open and staffed by at least one per-
21 son qualified to assist members of the armed forces
22 and eligible dependents of such members with cov-
23 ered identification matters not less than two days
24 per week during regular business hours.

25 “(b) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

1 “(1) The term ‘covered identification and eligi-
2 bility facility’ means a physical location capable of
3 assisting members of the armed forces and eligible
4 dependents of members of the armed forces with
5 covered identification matters.

6 “(2) The term ‘covered identification matters’
7 means matters relating to the Defense Enrollment
8 Eligibility Reporting System and Real-Time Auto-
9 mated Personnel Identification System, or any suc-
10 cessor to either such system, including the issuance
11 of appropriate identification related to each such
12 system.”.

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