

116TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 485

To amend title 38, United States Code, to provide for the circumstances under which the Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall provide reimbursement for emergency ambulance services.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 10, 2019

Mr. TIPTON (for himself, Ms. DELAURO, and Mr. WITTMAN) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs

A BILL

To amend title 38, United States Code, to provide for the circumstances under which the Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall provide reimbursement for emergency ambulance services.

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 “Veterans Reimburse-
5 ment for Emergency Ambulance Services Act” or the
6 “VREASA”.

1 **SEC. 2. SECRETARY OF VETERANS AFFAIRS REIMBURSE-**
2 **MENT FOR EMERGENCY AMBULANCE SERV-**
3 **ICES.**

4 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 1725(c) of title 38,
5 United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the
6 following new paragraph:

7 “(5) In delineating the circumstances under which re-
8 imbursement may be made under this section for ambu-
9 lance services for an individual, the Secretary shall treat
10 such services as emergency services for which reimburse-
11 ment may be made under this section if the Secretary de-
12 termines that—

13 “(A) the request for ambulance services was
14 made as a result of the sudden onset of a medical
15 condition of such a nature that a prudent layperson
16 who possesses an average knowledge of health and
17 medicine—

18 “(i) would have reasonably expected that a
19 delay in seeking immediate medical attention
20 would have been hazardous to the life or health
21 of the individual; or

22 “(ii) could reasonably expect the absence
23 of immediate medical attention to result in
24 placing the health of the individual in serious
25 jeopardy, the serious impairment of bodily func-

1 tions, or the serious dysfunction of any bodily
2 organ or part; and

3 “(B) the individual is transported to the closest
4 and most appropriate medical facility capable of
5 treating such emergency medical condition.”.

6 (b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by
7 subsection (a) shall apply with respect to ambulance serv-
8 ices provided on or after January 1, 2019.

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