

112<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESS  
1<sup>ST</sup> SESSION

# S. 1776

To amend title 10, United States Code, to expand the Operation Hero Miles program to include the authority to accept the donation of travel benefits in the form of hotel points or awards for free or reduced-cost accommodations.

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## IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

NOVEMBER 1, 2011

Mr. CARDIN (for himself, Mr. WICKER, and Mrs. FEINSTEIN) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Armed Services

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## A BILL

To amend title 10, United States Code, to expand the Operation Hero Miles program to include the authority to accept the donation of travel benefits in the form of hotel points or awards for free or reduced-cost accommodations.

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. EXPANSION OF OPERATION HERO MILES.**

4 (a) EXPANDED DEFINITION OF TRAVEL BENEFIT.—

5 Subsection (b) of section 2613 of title 10, United States

6 Code, is amended to read as follows:

1       “(b) TRAVEL BENEFIT DEFINED.—In this section,  
2 the term ‘travel benefit’ means—

3           “(1) frequent traveler miles, credits for tickets,  
4 or tickets for air or surface transportation issued by  
5 an air carrier or a surface carrier, respectively, that  
6 serves the public; and

7           “(2) points or awards for free or reduced-cost  
8 accommodations issued by an inn, hotel, or other  
9 commercial establishment that provides lodging to  
10 transient guests.”.

11       (b) CONDITION ON AUTHORITY TO ACCEPT DONA-  
12 TION.—Subsection (c) of such section is amended—

13           (1) by striking “the air or surface carrier” and  
14 inserting “the business entity referred to in sub-  
15 section (b)”;

16           (2) by striking “the surface carrier” and insert-  
17 ing “the business entity”; and

18           (3) by striking “the carrier” and inserting “the  
19 business entity”.

20       (c) USE.—Subsection (d) of such section is amend-  
21 ed—

22           (1) by striking “or” at the end of paragraph  
23 (1);

24           (2) by striking the period at the end of para-  
25 graph (2) and inserting a semicolon; and

1           (3) by adding at the end the following new  
2 paragraphs:

3           “(3) providing humanitarian support to mem-  
4 bers and eligible beneficiaries receiving care through  
5 the military health care system; and

6           “(4) providing support to allow participation of  
7 members and their families in Department of De-  
8 fense sponsored and authorized programs.”.

9           (d) ADMINISTRATION.—Subsection (e)(3) of such  
10 section is amended by striking “the air carrier or surface  
11 carrier” and inserting “the business entity referred to in  
12 subsection (b)”.

13           (e) STYLISTIC AMENDMENTS.—

14           (1) SECTION HEADING.—The heading of such  
15 section is amended to read as follows:

16 **“§ 2613. Acceptance of frequent traveler miles, cred-**  
17 **its, points, and tickets: use to facilitate**  
18 **rest and recuperation travel of deployed**  
19 **members and their families, support**  
20 **members and other beneficiaries of the**  
21 **military health care system, and support**  
22 **participation in authorized programs”.**

23           (2) TABLE OF SECTIONS.—The table of sections  
24 at the beginning of chapter 155 of such title is

- 1 amended by striking the item relating to section
- 2 2613 and inserting the following new item:

“2613. Acceptance of frequent traveler miles, credits, points, and tickets: use to facilitate rest and recuperation travel of deployed members and their families, support members and other beneficiaries of the military health care system, and support participation in authorized programs.”.

