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(Original Signature of Member)

112TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

**H. R.** \_\_\_\_\_

To direct the Secretary of Commerce to establish a grant program to provide veterans with apprenticeships and career advice.

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IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. BILBRAY introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
**A BILL**

To direct the Secretary of Commerce to establish a grant program to provide veterans with apprenticeships and career advice.

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 “Help Inspire and Re-  
5       train our Exceptional Veterans Act of 2011” or the  
6       “HIRE Veterans Act of 2011”.

1 **SEC. 2. GRANT PROGRAM TO PROVIDE VETERANS WITH AP-**  
2 **PRENTICESHIPS AND CAREER ADVICE.**

3 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—Subject to the availability of  
4 appropriations provided for such purpose, the Secretary  
5 of Commerce, in consultation with the Secretary of Vet-  
6 erans Affairs, shall establish a program to award grants  
7 to local Chambers of Commerce to provide veterans with  
8 apprenticeships and career advice.

9 (b) USE OF GRANT.—A local Chamber of Commerce  
10 may use a grant awarded under this section to establish  
11 a veterans apprenticeship program that provides veterans  
12 (particularly those who served in Operation Enduring  
13 Freedom, Operation Iraqi Freedom, or Operation New  
14 Dawn) with—

- 15 (1) training with respect to writing a résumé;  
16 (2) career advice; and  
17 (3) opportunities to pursue apprenticeships with  
18 businesses participating in the program.

19 (c) NUMBER AND AMOUNT OF GRANTS.—

20 (1) NUMBER.—The Secretary may not award  
21 more than one grant to a local Chamber of Com-  
22 merce during each five-year period in which the  
23 grant program established under subsection (a) is  
24 carried out.

1           (2) AMOUNT.—A grant awarded under this sec-  
2           tion shall be an amount that is not less than  
3           \$10,000 and not more than \$20,000.

4           (d) APPLICATION.—To be eligible for a grant under  
5           this section, a local Chamber of Commerce shall submit  
6           to the Secretary an application at such time, in such man-  
7           ner, and containing such information as the Secretary may  
8           require.

9           (e) TERMINATION.—The grant program established  
10          under subsection (a) shall terminate on September 30,  
11          2022.

12          (f) ANNUAL REPORT.—Not later than March 31 of  
13          each year following a year in which a grant is awarded  
14          under this section, the Secretary shall submit to Congress  
15          a report on the grant program, including—

16                (1) a list of each grant awarded in the year cov-  
17                ered by the report, including the amount of the  
18                grant and the local Chamber of Commerce awarded  
19                the grant; and

20                (2) the number of veterans who participated in  
21                a program described in subsection (b) who became  
22                employed during such year, including whether such  
23                employment is considered permanent or temporary.

1           (g) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is  
2 authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary to carry  
3 out this section a total of \$10,000,000.