117TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R.

To amend title 37, United States Code, to expand business costs, incurred by the spouse of a member of the uniformed services because of a permanent change of station or assignment for such member, eligible for reimbursement by the Secretary concerned.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Ms. ESCOBAR introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on ____________________________

A BILL

To amend title 37, United States Code, to expand business costs, incurred by the spouse of a member of the uniformed services because of a permanent change of station or assignment for such member, eligible for reimbursement by the Secretary concerned.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-

tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Military Spouse Enter-

preneur Reimbursement Act”.
SEC. 2. EXPANSION OF AUTHORITY TO REIMBURSE A MEMBER OF THE UNIFORMED SERVICES FOR SPOUSAL BUSINESS COSTS ARISING FROM A PERMANENT CHANGE OF STATION.

Section 453(g) of title 37, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in the heading, by inserting “OR BUSINESS COSTS” after “RELICENSING COSTS”;

(2) in paragraph (1), by inserting “or qualified business costs” after “qualified relicensing costs”;

(3) in paragraph (2)—

(A) by inserting “(A)” before “Reimbursement”;

(B) by inserting “for qualified relicensing costs” after “subsection”;

(C) by striking “$1000” and inserting “$1,000”; and

(D) by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

“(B) Reimbursement provided to a member under this subsection for qualified business costs may not exceed $2,000 in connection with each reassignment described in paragraph (1).”; 

(4) in paragraph (3), by inserting “or qualified business costs” after “qualified relicensing costs”;

(5) in paragraph (4)—
(A) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), by inserting “business license, permit,” after “courses,”;

(B) in subparagraph (A)—

(i) by inserting “, or owned a business,” before “during”;

(ii) by inserting “professional” before “license”; and

(iii) by inserting “, or business license or permit,” after “certification”; and

(C) in subparagraph (B)—

(i) by inserting “professional” before “license”; and

(ii) by inserting “, or business license or permit,” after “certification”; and

(6) by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

“(5) In this subsection, the term ‘qualified business costs’ means costs, including moving services for equipment, equipment removal, new equipment purchases, information technology expenses, and inspection fees, incurred by the spouse of a member if—

“(A) the spouse owned a business during the member’s previous duty assignment and the costs result from a movement described in paragraph (1)(B)
in connection with the member’s change in duty location pursuant to reassignment described in paragraph (1)(A); and

“(B) the costs were incurred or paid to move such business to a new location in connection with such reassignment.”.