

The HOPE for Heroes Act **Sponsored by: Sen. Jerry Moran**

Section 1: Short title

- Helping Optimize Prevention and Engagement (HOPE) for Heroes Act of 2025

Section 2: Modifications to and reauthorization of the Staff Sergeant Parker Gordon Fox Suicide Prevention Grant Program

- Increase the grant award funding from \$750,000 to \$1,000,000, and allow VA to award additional amounts, not more than \$500,000, to grantees based on the number of individuals the grantee is screening for eligibility for suicide prevention services.
- Expand the authority for grantees to utilize grant money for administrative costs (up to 30%) and food and beverages (up to 5%).
- Require VA to collaborate with grantees to improve continuity of care by coordinating a communication plan between the grantee and local VA suicide prevention coordinators on veteran appointment attendance and follow up.
- Require grantees to utilize the Columbia- Suicide Severity Rating Scale (C-SSRS) as a screening protocol and require VA to conduct trainings for grantees on how to properly utilize and implement C-SSRS.
- Require VA to train Department employees on the grant program, and report to Congress.
- Require VA to annually brief Department employees within 100 miles of a grant recipient about the grant program to improve coordination between VA and grantees.
- Change duration of the grant program to 5 years, ending on September 30, 2030.
- Require that, if VA does not provide mental health or addictions care to an eligible individual during the 72-hour period following a referral, the individual can be treated as eligible for emergent suicide care.
- Update the definition of “medical services” to include emergency treatment and “risk of suicide” to include all risk factors of varying degrees.
- Allow grantees to offer transportation and rideshare services for eligible individuals to use for appointments.