

112TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2559

To amend title 38, United States Code, to make certain improvements in the laws administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs relating to homeless veterans, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 15, 2011

Mr. DEUTCH (for himself, Mr. ISRAEL, Mr. SMITH of Washington, Ms. RICHARDSON, Ms. BERKLEY, Mr. REYES, Mr. JACKSON of Illinois, Mr. MCGOVERN, Ms. WILSON of Florida, Mrs. DAVIS of California, Mr. ENGEL, Ms. SLAUGHTER, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. HASTINGS of Florida, and Mr. ROONEY) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs

A BILL

To amend title 38, United States Code, to make certain improvements in the laws administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs relating to homeless veterans, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

1 **TITLE I—HOMELESS VETERANS**
2 **MATTERS**

3 **SECTION 101. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Helping Homeless He-
5 roes Act of 2011”.

6 **SEC. 102. ENHANCEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE SERVICE**
7 **PROGRAMS.**

8 (a) **ENHANCEMENT OF GRANTS.**—Section 2011 of
9 title 38, United States Code, is amended—

10 (1) in subsection (b)(1)(A), by striking “expan-
11 sion, remodeling, or alteration of existing facilities,
12 or acquisition of facilities,” and inserting “new con-
13 struction of facilities, expansion, remodeling, or al-
14 teration of existing facilities, or acquisition of facili-
15 ties”; and

16 (2) in subsection (c)—

17 (A) in the first sentence, by striking “A
18 grant” and inserting “(1) A grant”;

19 (B) in the second sentence of paragraph
20 (1), as designated by subparagraph (A), by
21 striking “The amount” and inserting the fol-
22 lowing:

23 “(2) The amount”; and

24 (C) by adding at the end the following new
25 paragraph:

1 “(3)(A) The Secretary may not deny an appli-
2 cation from an entity that seeks a grant under this
3 section to carry out a project described in subsection
4 (b)(1)(A) solely on the basis that the entity proposes
5 to use funding from other private or public sources,
6 if the entity demonstrates that a private nonprofit
7 organization will provide oversight and site control
8 for the project.

9 “(B) In this paragraph, the term ‘private
10 nonprofit organization’ means the following:

11 “(i) An incorporated private institu-
12 tion, organization, or foundation—

13 “(I) that has received, or has
14 temporary clearance to receive, tax-ex-
15 empt status under paragraph (2), (3),
16 or (19) of section 501(c) of the Inter-
17 nal Revenue Code of 1986;

18 “(II) for which no part of the net
19 earnings of the institution, organiza-
20 tion, or foundation inures to the ben-
21 efit of any member, founder, or con-
22 tributor of the institution, organiza-
23 tion, or foundation; and

24 “(III) that the Secretary deter-
25 mines is financially responsible.

1 “(ii) A for-profit limited partnership
2 or limited liability company, the sole gen-
3 eral partner or manager of which is an or-
4 ganization that is described by subclauses
5 (I) through (III) of clause (i).

6 “(iii) A corporation wholly owned and
7 controlled by an organization that is de-
8 scribed by subclauses (I) through (III) of
9 clause (i).”.

10 (b) GRANT AND PER DIEM PAYMENTS.—

11 (1) STUDY AND DEVELOPMENT OF FISCAL CON-
12 TROLS AND PAYMENT METHOD.—Not later than one
13 year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the
14 Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall—

15 (A) complete a study of all matters relat-
16 ing to the method used by the Secretary to
17 make per diem payments under section 2012(a)
18 of title 38, United States Code; and

19 (B) develop an improved method for ade-
20 quately reimbursing recipients of grants under
21 section 2011 of such title for services furnished
22 to homeless veterans.

23 (2) CONSIDERATION.—In developing the meth-
24 od required by paragraph (1)(B), the Secretary may
25 consider payments and grants received by recipients

1 of grants described in such paragraph from other
2 departments and agencies of Federal and local gov-
3 ernments and from private entities.

4 (3) REPORT.—Not later than one year after the
5 date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary
6 shall submit to Congress a report on—

7 (A) the findings of the Secretary with re-
8 spect to the study required by subparagraph
9 (A) of paragraph (1);

10 (B) the method developed under subpara-
11 graph (B) of such paragraph; and

12 (C) any recommendations of the Secretary
13 for revising the method described in subpara-
14 graph (A) of such paragraph and any legislative
15 action the Secretary considers necessary to im-
16 plement such method.

17 (c) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—Section
18 2013 of such title is amended by striking “subchapter”
19 and all that follows through the period and inserting the
20 following: “subchapter amounts as follows:

21 “(1) \$150,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2007
22 through 2009.

23 “(2) \$175,100,000 for fiscal year 2010.

24 “(3) \$217,700,000 for fiscal year 2011.

25 “(4) \$250,000,000 for fiscal year 2012.

1 “(5) \$150,000,000 for fiscal year 2013 and
2 each fiscal year thereafter.”.

3 **SEC. 103. MODIFICATION OF GRANT PROGRAM FOR HOME-**
4 **LESS VETERANS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS.**

5 (a) INCLUSION OF ENTITIES ELIGIBLE FOR COM-
6 PREHENSIVE SERVICE PROGRAM GRANTS AND PER DIEM
7 PAYMENTS FOR SERVICES TO HOMELESS VETERANS.—
8 Subsection (a) of section 2061 of such title is amended—

9 (1) by striking “to grant and per diem pro-
10 viders” and inserting “to entities eligible for grants
11 and per diem payments under sections 2011 and
12 2012 of this title”; and

13 (2) by striking “by those facilities and pro-
14 viders” and inserting “by those facilities and enti-
15 ties”.

16 (b) INCLUSION OF MALE HOMELESS VETERANS
17 WITH MINOR DEPENDENTS.—Subsection (b) of such sec-
18 tion is amended—

19 (1) in paragraph (1), by striking “, including
20 women who have care of minor dependents”;

21 (2) in paragraph (3), by striking “or”;

22 (3) in paragraph (4), by striking the period at
23 the end and inserting “; or”; and

24 (4) by adding at the end the following new
25 paragraph:

1 “(5) individuals who have care of minor de-
2 pendents.”.

3 (c) AUTHORIZATION OF PROVISION OF SERVICES TO
4 DEPENDENTS.—Such section is further amended—

5 (1) by redesignating subsection (c) as sub-
6 section (d); and

7 (2) by inserting after subsection (b) the fol-
8 lowing new subsection (c):

9 “(c) PROVISION OF SERVICES TO DEPENDENTS.—A
10 recipient of a grant under subsection (a) may use amounts
11 under the grant to provide services directly to a dependent
12 of a homeless veteran with special needs who is under the
13 care of such homeless veteran while such homeless veteran
14 receives services from the grant recipient under this sec-
15 tion.”.

16 **SEC. 104. MODIFICATION OF AUTHORITY FOR PROVISION**
17 **OF TREATMENT AND REHABILITATION TO**
18 **CERTAIN VETERANS TO INCLUDE PROVISION**
19 **OF TREATMENT AND REHABILITATION TO**
20 **HOMELESS VETERANS WHO ARE NOT SERI-**
21 **OUSLY MENTALLY ILL.**

22 Section 2031(a) of such title is amended in the mat-
23 ter before paragraph (1) by striking “, including” and in-
24 serting “and to”.

1 **SEC. 105. PLAN TO END VETERAN HOMELESSNESS.**

2 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than one year after the
3 date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Vet-
4 erans Affairs shall submit to Congress a comprehensive
5 plan to end homelessness among veterans.

6 (b) ELEMENTS.—The plan required by subsection (a)
7 shall include the following:

8 (1) An analysis of programs of the Department
9 of Veterans Affairs and other departments and
10 agencies of the Federal Government that are de-
11 signed to prevent homelessness among veterans and
12 assist veterans who are homeless.

13 (2) An evaluation of whether and how coordina-
14 tion between the programs described in paragraph
15 (1) would contribute to ending homelessness among
16 veterans.

17 (3) Recommendations for improving the pro-
18 grams described in paragraph (1), enhancing coordi-
19 nation between such programs, or eliminating pro-
20 grams that are no longer effective.

21 (4) Recommendations for new programs to pre-
22 vent and end homelessness among veterans, includ-
23 ing an estimate of the cost of such programs.

24 (5) A timeline for implementing the plan, in-
25 cluding milestones to track the implementation of
26 the plan.

1 (6) Benchmarks to measure the effectiveness of
2 the plan and the efforts of the Secretary to imple-
3 ment the plan.

4 (7) Such other matters as the Secretary con-
5 siders necessary.

6 (c) CONSIDERATION OF VETERANS LOCATED IN
7 RURAL AREAS.—The analysis, evaluation, and rec-
8 ommendations included in the report required by sub-
9 section (a) shall include consideration of the circumstances
10 and requirements that are unique to veterans located in
11 rural areas.

12 **SEC. 106. EXTENSION OF CERTAIN AUTHORITIES RELATING**
13 **TO HOMELESS VETERANS.**

14 (a) HEALTH CARE FOR HOMELESS VETERANS.—
15 Section 2031(b) of title 38, United States Code, is amend-
16 ed by striking “December 31, 2011” and inserting “De-
17 cember 31, 2012”.

18 (b) CENTERS FOR PROVISION OF COMPREHENSIVE
19 SERVICES TO HOMELESS VETERANS.—Section 2033(d) of
20 such title is amended by striking “December 31, 2011”
21 and inserting “December 31, 2014”.

22 (c) PROPERTY TRANSFERS FOR HOUSING ASSIST-
23 ANCE FOR HOMELESS VETERANS.—Section 2041(c) of
24 such title is amended by striking “December 31, 2011”
25 and inserting “December 31, 2014”.

1 (d) ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON HOMELESS VET-
2 ERANS.—Section 2066(d) of such title is amended by
3 striking “December 30, 2011” and inserting “December
4 30, 2013”.

5 **SEC. 107. REAUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS FOR**
6 **HOMELESS VETERANS REINTEGRATION PRO-**
7 **GRAM.**

8 Section 2021(e)(1) of such title is amended adding
9 at the end the following new subparagraph:

10 “(G) \$50,000,000 for fiscal year 2012.”.

11 **SEC. 108. REAUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS FOR FI-**
12 **NANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR SUPPORTIVE**
13 **SERVICES FOR VERY LOW-INCOME VETERAN**
14 **FAMILIES IN PERMANENT HOUSING.**

15 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 2044(e) of such title is
16 amended—

17 (1) in paragraph (1), by adding at the end the
18 following new subparagraph:

19 “(D) \$100,000,000 for fiscal year 2012.”;

20 and

21 (2) in paragraph (3), by striking “2011” and
22 inserting “2012”.

23 (b) TECHNICAL AMENDMENT.—Paragraph (1) of
24 such subsection is further amended by striking “carry out

1 subsection (a), (b), and (c)” and inserting “carry out sub-
2 sections (a), (b), and (c)”.

3 **SEC. 109. REAUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS FOR**
4 **GRANT PROGRAM FOR HOMELESS VETERANS**
5 **WITH SPECIAL NEEDS.**

6 Section 2061(c)(1) of such title is amended by strik-
7 ing “2011” and inserting “2013”.

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