

112TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 1017

To amend title 38, United States Code, to increase assistance for disabled veterans who are temporarily residing in housing owned by a family member, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MAY 17, 2011

Mr. SANDERS introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs

A BILL

To amend title 38, United States Code, to increase assistance for disabled veterans who are temporarily residing in housing owned by a family member, 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,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Disabled Veteran Care-
5 giver Housing Assistance Act of 2011”.

1 **SEC. 2. INCREASED ASSISTANCE FOR DISABLED VETERANS**
2 **RESIDING IN HOUSING OWNED BY A FAMILY**
3 **MEMBER.**

4 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 2102A of title 38, United
5 States Code, is amended—

6 (1) in subsection (b)—

7 (A) in paragraph (1), by striking
8 “\$14,000” and inserting “\$28,000”; and

9 (B) in paragraph (2), by striking “\$2,000”
10 and inserting “\$5,000”;

11 (2) by redesignating subsection (e) as sub-
12 section (f); and

13 (3) by inserting after subsection (d) the fol-
14 lowing new subsection (e):

15 “(e) ADJUSTMENT.—(1) Effective on October 1 of
16 each year (beginning in 2011), the Secretary shall increase
17 the amounts described in paragraphs (1) and (2) of sub-
18 section (b) in accordance with this subsection.

19 “(2) The increase in amounts under paragraph (1)
20 to take effect on October 1 of a year shall be by an amount
21 of such amounts equal to the percentage by which—

22 “(A) the residential home cost-of-construction
23 index for the preceding calendar year, exceeds

24 “(B) the residential home cost-of-construction
25 index for the year preceding the year described in
26 subparagraph (A).

1 “(3) For the purposes of this subsection, the Sec-
2 retary shall use the residential home cost-of-construction
3 index established under section 2102(e)(3) of this title.”.

4 (b) PERMANENT AUTHORITY.—Such section is fur-
5 ther amended by striking subsection (f), as redesignated
6 by subsection (a)(2).

7 (c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by
8 this section shall take effect on the date of the enactment
9 of this Act and shall apply with respect to payments made
10 in accordance with section 2102A of title 38, United
11 States Code, on or after that date.

12 **SEC. 3. EXPANSION OF ELIGIBILITY FOR SPECIALLY**
13 **ADAPTED HOUSING ASSISTANCE FOR VET-**
14 **ERANS WITH VISION IMPAIRMENT.**

15 Paragraph (2) of section 2101(b) of title 38, United
16 States Code, is amended to read as follows:

17 “(2) A veteran is described in this paragraph if the
18 veteran is entitled to compensation under chapter 11 of
19 this title for a service-connected disability that meets any
20 of the following criteria:

21 “(A) The disability is due to blindness in both
22 eyes, having central visual acuity of 20/200 or less
23 in the better eye with the use of a standard cor-
24 recting lens. For the purposes of this subparagraph,
25 an eye with a limitation in the fields of vision such

1 that the widest diameter of the visual field subtends
2 an angle no greater than 20 degrees shall be consid-
3 ered as having a central visual acuity of 20/200 or
4 less.

5 “(B) A permanent and total disability that in-
6 cludes the anatomical loss or loss of use of both
7 hands.

8 “(C) A permanent and total disability that is
9 due to a severe burn injury (as so determined).”.

10 **SEC. 4. REVISED LIMITATIONS ON ASSISTANCE FUR-**
11 **NISHED.**

12 Section 2102(d) of title 38, United States Code, is
13 amended—

14 (1) in paragraph (1), by striking “under sec-
15 tions 2101(a) and 2102A” and inserting “under sec-
16 tion 2101(a)”; and

17 (2) in paragraph (2), by striking “under sec-
18 tions 2101(b) and 2102A” and inserting “under sec-
19 tion 2101(b)”.

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