

**§ 531. Requirements relating to naming of Department property**

(a) NAMING LIMITATION.—Except as expressly provided by law or as authorized under subsection (b), a facility, structure, or real property of the Department, and a major portion (such as a wing or floor) of any such facility, structure, or real property, may be named only for the geographic area in which the facility, structure, or real property is located.

(b) TRANSFER OF NAMES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may transfer the name of covered property of the Department to other covered property of the Department if—

(A) the original covered property was designated with that name by law;

(B) the Department no longer offers benefits or services at the original covered property;

(C) the other covered property is similar in type and purpose as the original covered property;

(D) the other covered property is located in a different location or at a different address from the original covered property within the town, city, or other local government area specified in the designation made by such law; and

(E) such transfer occurs not less than 30 days after the Secretary notifies the Committee on Veterans' Affairs of the Senate, the Committee on Veterans' Affairs of the House of Representatives, and each member of Congress representing the State in which the original covered property and other covered property are located of the intent of the Secretary to transfer the name of the original covered property to the other covered property.

(2) REFERENCES.—If the Secretary transfers the name of covered property under paragraph (1), any reference in a law, regulation, map, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the covered property originally named by law shall be deemed to be a reference to the covered property to which the name has been transferred under such paragraph.

(3) COVERED PROPERTY.—In this subsection, the term “covered property” means a facility, structure, or real property of the Department or a major portion (such as a wing or floor) of any such facility, structure, or real property.

(Added Pub. L. 105-368, title X, §1001(a)(1), Nov. 11, 1998, 112 Stat. 3363; amended Pub. L. 117-137, §1(a), June 7, 2022, 136 Stat. 1254.)

**Editorial Notes**

AMENDMENTS

2022—Pub. L. 117-137, §1(a)(2), (3), designated existing provisions as subsec. (a), inserted heading, inserted “or as authorized under subsection (b)” after “Except as expressly provided by law”, and added subsec. (b).

Pub. L. 117-137, §1(a)(1), substituted “Requirements” for “Requirement” in section catchline.

**Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries**

EFFECTIVE DATE

Pub. L. 105-368, title X, §1001(b), Nov. 11, 1998, 112 Stat. 3363, provided that: “Section 531 of title 38, United

States Code, as added by subsection (a)(1), shall apply with respect to the assignment or designation of the name of a facility, structure, or real property of the Department of Veterans Affairs (or of a major portion thereof) after the date of the enactment of this Act [Nov. 11, 1998].”

**§ 532. Authority to advertise in national media; VetStar Award Program**

(a) ADVERTISING IN NATIONAL MEDIA.—The Secretary may purchase advertising in national media outlets for the purpose of promoting awareness of benefits under laws administered by the Secretary, including promoting awareness of assistance provided by the Secretary, including assistance for programs to assist homeless veterans, to promote veteran-owned small businesses, and to provide opportunities for employment in the Department of Veterans Affairs and for education, training, compensation, pension, vocational rehabilitation, and healthcare benefits, and mental healthcare (including the prevention of suicide among veterans).

(b) VETSTAR AWARD PROGRAM.—(1) The Secretary shall establish an award program, to be known as the “VetStar Award Program”, to recognize annually businesses for their contributions to veterans' employment.

(2) The Secretary shall establish a process for the administration of the award program, including criteria for—

(A) categories and sectors of businesses eligible for recognition each year; and

(B) objective measures to be used in selecting businesses to receive the award.

(Added Pub. L. 110-389, title VIII, §809(a), Oct. 10, 2008, 122 Stat. 4189; amended Pub. L. 112-154, title VII, §709(a), (b)(1), Aug. 6, 2012, 126 Stat. 1207.)

**Editorial Notes**

AMENDMENTS

2012—Pub. L. 112-154 inserted “; VetStar Award Program” after “national media” in section catchline, designated existing provisions as subsec. (a), inserted heading, and added subsec. (b).

**§ 533. Anti-harassment and anti-sexual assault policy**

(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—(1) The Secretary, acting through the Office of Assault and Prevention of the Veterans Health Administration, shall establish a comprehensive policy to end harassment and sexual assault, including sexual harassment and gender-based harassment, throughout the Department.

(2) The policy required by paragraph (1) shall include the following:

(A) A process for employees and contractors of the Department to respond to reported incidents of harassment and sexual assault committed by any non-Department individual within a facility of the Department, including with respect to accountability or disciplinary measures.

(B) A process for employees and contractors of the Department to respond to reported incidents of harassment and sexual assault of any non-Department individual within a facility of the Department.

(C) A process for any non-Department individual to report harassment and sexual assault