

107TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2716

To amend title 38, United States Code, to revise, improve, and consolidate provisions of law providing benefits and services for homeless veterans.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

AUGUST 2, 2001

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey (for himself, Mr. BUYER, and Mr. SIMMONS) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs, and in addition to the Committee on Financial Services, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

A BILL

To amend title 38, United States Code, to revise, improve, and consolidate provisions of law providing benefits and services for homeless veterans.

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; TABLE OF CONTENTS; REF-**
4 **ERENCES TO TITLE 38, UNITED STATES CODE.**

5 (a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the
6 “Homeless Veterans Assistance Act of 2001”.

7 (b) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents of
8 this Act is as follows:

- Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents; references to title 38, United States Code.
- Sec. 2. Sense of the Congress regarding the needs of homeless veterans and the responsibility of Federal agencies.
- Sec. 3. Improvement and consolidation of provisions of law relating to homeless veterans.
- Sec. 4. Rental assistance vouchers for HUD Veterans Affairs supported housing program.
- Sec. 5. Increase in representative payee services for homeless veterans.
- Sec. 6. Joint methodology to monitor results of services furnished to homeless veterans.
- Sec. 7. Enhanced-use leases for facilities that serve homeless veterans.
- Sec. 8. Authorization of additional domiciliary care programs.
- Sec. 9. Demonstration program relating to referral and counseling for veterans transitioning from certain institutions who are at risk for homelessness.
- Sec. 10. Demonstration program for grants for independent group homes for recovering veterans.

1 (c) REFERENCES TO TITLE 38, UNITED STATES
2 CODE.—Except as otherwise expressly provided, whenever
3 in this Act an amendment or repeal is expressed in terms
4 of an amendment to, or repeal of, a section or other provi-
5 sion, the reference shall be considered to be made to a
6 section or other provision of title 38, United States Code.

7 **SEC. 2. SENSE OF THE CONGRESS REGARDING THE NEEDS**
8 **OF HOMELESS VETERANS AND THE RESPON-**
9 **SIBILITY OF FEDERAL AGENCIES.**

10 It is the sense of the Congress that—

11 (1) Federal programs for the assistance of
12 homeless veterans that are effective should be identi-
13 fied and expanded;

14 (2) federally funded programs for homeless vet-
15 erans should be held accountable for achieving clear-
16 ly defined results;

1 (3) Federal efforts to assist homeless veterans
2 should include prevention of homelessness; and

3 (4) Federal agencies, particularly the Depart-
4 ment of Veterans Affairs and the Department of
5 Housing and Urban Development, should cooperate
6 more fully to address the problem of homelessness
7 among veterans.

8 **SEC. 3. IMPROVEMENT AND CONSOLIDATION OF PROVI-**
9 **SIONS OF LAW RELATING TO HOMELESS VET-**
10 **ERANS.**

11 (a) IN GENERAL.—(1) Part II is amended by insert-
12 ing after chapter 19 the following new chapter:

13 **“CHAPTER 20—BENEFITS FOR HOMELESS**
14 **VETERANS**

 “SUBCHAPTER I—PURPOSE; DEFINITIONS

 “Sec.

 “2001. Purpose.

 “2002. Definitions.

 “SUBCHAPTER II—COMPREHENSIVE SERVICE PROGRAMS

 “2011. Grants.

 “2012. Per diem payments.

 “2013. Authorization of appropriations.

 “SUBCHAPTER III—TRAINING

 “2021. Homeless veterans’ reintegration programs.

 “SUBCHAPTER IV—TREATMENT AND REHABILITATION FOR SERIOUSLY
 MENTALLY ILL AND HOMELESS VETERANS

 “2031. General treatment.

 “2032. Therapeutic housing.

 “2033. Additional services at certain locations.

 “2034. Coordination with other agencies and organizations.

 “2035. Representative payee services.

 “SUBCHAPTER V—HOUSING ASSISTANCE

“2041. Housing assistance for homeless veterans.

“SUBCHAPTER VI—LOAN GUARANTEES FOR MULTIFAMILY TRANSITIONAL
HOUSING

“2051. General authority.

“2052. Requirements.

“2053. Default.

“2054. Audit.

“SUBCHAPTER VII—MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

“2061. Annual report on assistance to homeless veterans.

1 “SUBCHAPTER I—PURPOSE; DEFINITIONS

2 “§ 2001. Purpose

3 “The purpose of this chapter is to provide for the
4 special needs of homeless veterans.

5 “§ 2002. Definitions

6 “In this chapter:

7 “(1) The term ‘homeless veteran’ means a
8 homeless individual who is a veteran.

9 “(2) The term ‘homeless individual’ has the
10 meaning given such term by section 103 of the
11 McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (42
12 U.S.C. 11302).

13 “SUBCHAPTER II—COMPREHENSIVE SERVICE
14 PROGRAMS

15 “§ 2011. Grants

16 “(a) AUTHORITY TO MAKE GRANTS.—(1) Subject to
17 the availability of appropriations provided for such pur-
18 pose, the Secretary shall make grants to assist eligible en-
19 tities in establishing programs to furnish, and expanding

1 or modifying existing programs for furnishing, the fol-
2 lowing to homeless veterans:

3 “(A) Outreach.

4 “(B) Rehabilitative services.

5 “(C) Vocational counseling and training

6 “(D) Transitional housing assistance.

7 “(2) The authority of the Secretary to make grants
8 under this section expires on September 30, 2003.

9 “(b) CRITERIA FOR AWARD OF GRANTS.—The Sec-
10 retary shall establish criteria and requirements for the
11 award of a grant under this section, including criteria for
12 entities eligible to receive such grants, and shall publish
13 such criteria and requirements in the Federal Register.
14 The criteria established under this section shall include
15 the following:

16 “(1) Specification as to the kinds of projects for
17 which such grant support is available, which shall
18 include—

19 “(A) expansion, remodeling, or alteration
20 of existing buildings, or acquisition of facilities,
21 for use as service centers, transitional housing,
22 or other facilities to serve homeless veterans;
23 and

24 “(B) procurement of vans for use in out-
25 reach to, and transportation for, homeless vet-

1 erans to carry out the purposes set forth in
2 subsection (a).

3 “(2) Specification as to the number of projects
4 for which grant support is available.

5 “(3) Appropriate criteria for the staffing for the
6 provision of the services for which a grant under this
7 section is furnished.

8 “(4) Provisions to ensure that the award of
9 grants under this section—

10 “(A) shall not result in duplication of on-
11 going services; and

12 “(B) to the maximum extent practicable,
13 shall reflect appropriate geographic dispersion
14 and an appropriate balance between urban and
15 nonurban locations.

16 “(5) Provisions to ensure that an entity receiv-
17 ing a grant shall meet fire and safety requirements
18 established by the Secretary, which shall include
19 such State and community requirements that may
20 apply, but fire and safety requirements applicable to
21 buildings of the Federal Government shall not apply
22 to real property to be used by a grantee in carrying
23 out the grant.

24 “(6) Specifications as to the means by which an
25 entity receiving a grant may contribute in-kind serv-

1 ices to the start-up costs of any project for which
2 support is sought and the methodology for assigning
3 a cost to that contribution for purposes of subsection
4 (c).

5 “(c) FUNDING LIMITATIONS.—A grant under this
6 section may not be used to support operational costs. The
7 amount of a grant under this section may not exceed 65
8 percent of the estimated cost of the expansion, remodeling,
9 alteration, acquisition, or procurement provided for under
10 this section.

11 “(d) ELIGIBLE ENTITIES.—The Secretary may make
12 a grant under this section to an entity applying for such
13 a grant only if the applicant for the grant—

14 “(1) is a public or nonprofit private entity with
15 the capacity (as determined by the Secretary) to ef-
16 fectively administer a grant under this section;

17 “(2) has demonstrated that adequate financial
18 support will be available to carry out the project for
19 which the grant has been sought consistent with the
20 plans, specifications, and schedule submitted by the
21 applicant; and

22 “(3) has agreed to meet the applicable criteria
23 and requirements established under subsections (b)
24 and (g) (and the Secretary has determined that the

1 applicant has demonstrated the capacity to meet
2 those criteria and requirements).

3 “(e) APPLICATION REQUIREMENT.—An entity de-
4 scribed in subsection (d) desiring to receive assistance
5 under this section shall submit to the Secretary an appli-
6 cation. The application shall set forth the following:

7 “(1) The amount of the grant requested with
8 respect to a project.

9 “(2) A description of the site for such project.

10 “(3) Plans, specifications, and the schedule for
11 implementation of such project in accordance with
12 requirements prescribed by the Secretary under sub-
13 section (b).

14 “(4) Reasonable assurance that upon comple-
15 tion of the work for which assistance is sought, the
16 program will become operational and the facilities
17 will be used principally to provide to veterans the
18 services for which the project was designed, and that
19 not more than 25 percent of the services provided
20 will serve clients who are not receiving such services
21 as veterans.

22 “(f) PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS.—The Secretary may
23 not make a grant to an applicant under this section unless
24 the applicant, in the application for the grant, agrees to
25 each of the following requirements:

1 “(1) To provide the services for which the grant
2 is furnished at locations accessible to homeless vet-
3 erans.

4 “(2) To maintain referral networks for, and aid
5 homeless veterans in, establishing eligibility for as-
6 sistance, and obtaining services, under available enti-
7 tlement and assistance programs.

8 “(3) To ensure the confidentiality of records
9 maintained on homeless veterans receiving services
10 under the grant.

11 “(4) To establish such procedures for fiscal
12 control and fund accounting as may be necessary to
13 ensure proper disbursement and accounting with re-
14 spect to the grant and to such payments as may be
15 made under section 2012 of this title.

16 “(5) To seek to employ homeless veterans and
17 formerly homeless veterans in positions created for
18 purposes of the grant for which those veterans are
19 qualified.

20 “(g) SERVICE CENTER REQUIREMENTS.—In addition
21 to criteria established under subsection (b), the Secretary
22 shall, in the case of an application for a grant for a service
23 center for homeless veterans, require each of the following:

24 “(1) That such center provide services to home-
25 less veterans during such hours as the Secretary

1 may specify and be open to such veterans on an as-
2 needed, unscheduled basis.

3 “(2) That space at such center will be made
4 available, as mutually agreeable, for use by staff of
5 the Department of Veterans Affairs, the Department
6 of Labor, and other appropriate agencies and orga-
7 nizations in assisting homeless veterans served by
8 such center.

9 “(3) That such center be equipped and staffed
10 to provide, or to assist in providing, health care,
11 mental health services, hygiene facilities, benefits
12 and employment counseling, meals, transportation
13 assistance, and such other services as the Secretary
14 determines necessary.

15 “(4) That such center may be equipped and
16 staffed to provide, or to assist in providing, job
17 training and job placement services (including job
18 readiness, job counseling, and literacy and skills
19 training), as well as any outreach and case manage-
20 ment services that may be necessary to carry out
21 this paragraph.

22 **“§ 2012. Per diem payments**

23 “(a) PER DIEM PAYMENTS FOR FURNISHING SERV-
24 ICES TO HOMELESS VETERANS.—(1) Subject to the avail-
25 ability of appropriations provided for such purpose, the

1 Secretary, pursuant to such criteria as the Secretary shall
2 prescribe, shall provide to a recipient of a grant under sec-
3 tion 2011 of this title (or an entity eligible to receive a
4 grant under that section which after November 10, 1992,
5 establishes a program that the Secretary determines car-
6 ries out the purposes described in that section) per diem
7 payments for services furnished to any homeless veteran—

8 “(A) whom the Secretary has referred to the
9 grant recipient (or entity eligible for such a grant);
10 or

11 “(B) for whom the Secretary has authorized the
12 provision of services.

13 “(2) The rate for such per diem payments shall be
14 the rate applicable for domiciliary care under section
15 1741(a)(1)(A) of this title.

16 “(3) In a case in which the Secretary has authorized
17 the provision of services, per diem payments under para-
18 graph (1) may be paid retroactively for services provided
19 not more than three days before the authorization was
20 provided.

21 “(b) IN-KIND ASSISTANCE.—In lieu of per diem pay-
22 ments under this section, the Secretary may, with the ap-
23 proval of the grant recipient, provide in-kind assistance
24 (through the services of employees of the Department of
25 Veterans Affairs and the use of other Department re-

1 sources) to a grant recipient (or entity eligible for such
2 a grant) under section 2011 of this title.

3 “(c) INSPECTIONS.—The Secretary may inspect any
4 facility of an entity eligible for payments under subsection
5 (a) at such times as the Secretary considers necessary. No
6 per diem payment may be made to an entity under this
7 section unless the facilities of that entity meet such stand-
8 ards as the Secretary shall prescribe.

9 “(d) RECOVERY OF UNUSED GRANT FUNDS.—(1) If
10 a grant recipient (or entity eligible for such a grant) under
11 section 2011 of this title does not establish a program in
12 accordance with that section or ceases to furnish services
13 under such a program for which the grant was made, the
14 United States shall be entitled to recover from such recipi-
15 ent or entity the total of all unused grant amounts made
16 under this section to such recipient or entity in connection
17 with such program.

18 “(2) Any amount recovered by the United States
19 under paragraph (1) may be obligated by the Secretary
20 without fiscal year limitation to carry out provisions of
21 this subchapter.

22 **“§ 2013. Authorization of appropriations**

23 “There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out
24 this subchapter amounts as follows:

25 “(1) \$50,000,000 for fiscal year 2000.

1 “(2) \$50,000,000 for fiscal year 2001.

2 “(3) \$60,000,000 for fiscal year 2002.

3 “(4) \$75,000,000 for fiscal year 2003.

4 “(5) \$75,000,000 for fiscal year 2004.

5 “(6) \$75,000,000 for fiscal year 2005.

6 “SUBCHAPTER III—TRAINING

7 **“§ 2021. Homeless veterans’ reintegration programs**

8 “(a) IN GENERAL.—Subject to the availability of ap-
9 propriations provided for under subsection (d) and made
10 available for such purpose, the Secretary of Labor shall
11 conduct, directly or through grant or contract, such pro-
12 grams as the Secretary determines appropriate to provide
13 job training, counseling, and placement services to expe-
14 dite the reintegration of homeless veterans into the labor
15 force.

16 “(b) REQUIREMENT TO MONITOR EXPENDITURES
17 OF FUNDS.—(1) The Secretary of Labor shall collect such
18 information as the Secretary considers appropriate to
19 monitor and evaluate the distribution and expenditure of
20 funds appropriated to carry out this section. The informa-
21 tion shall include data with respect to the results or out-
22 comes of the services provided to each homeless veteran
23 under this section.

1 “(2) The information under paragraph (1) shall be
2 furnished to the Secretary of Labor in such form as the
3 Secretary considers appropriate.

4 “(c) ADMINISTRATION THROUGH THE ASSISTANT
5 SECRETARY OF LABOR FOR VETERANS’ EMPLOYMENT
6 AND TRAINING.—The Secretary of Labor shall carry out
7 this section through the Assistant Secretary of Labor for
8 Veterans’ Employment and Training.

9 “(d) ANNUAL REPORT TO CONGRESS.—The Sec-
10 retary of Labor shall submit to Congress an annual report
11 that evaluates services furnished to veterans under this
12 section, and includes an analysis of the information col-
13 lected under subsection (c).

14 “(e) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—(1)
15 There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this
16 section amounts as follows:

17 “(A) \$10,000,000 for fiscal year 2000.

18 “(B) \$15,000,000 for fiscal year 2001.

19 “(C) \$20,000,000 for fiscal year 2002.

20 “(D) \$20,000,000 for fiscal year 2003.

21 “(2) Funds appropriated to carry out this section
22 shall remain available until expended. Funds obligated in
23 any fiscal year to carry out this section may be expended
24 in that fiscal year and the succeeding fiscal year.

1 “SUBCHAPTER V—HOUSING ASSISTANCE

2 “SUBCHAPTER VII—MISCELLANEOUS

3 PROVISIONS

4 **“§ 2061. Annual report on assistance to homeless vet-**
5 **erans**

6 “(a) ANNUAL REPORT.—Not later than April 15 of
7 each year, the Secretary shall submit to the Committees
8 on Veterans’ Affairs of the Senate and House of Rep-
9 resentatives a report on the activities of the Department
10 during the calendar year preceding the report under pro-
11 grams of the Department under this chapter and other
12 programs of the Department for the provision of assist-
13 ance to homeless veterans.

14 “(b) CONTENTS OF REPORT.—Each report under
15 subsection (a) shall include the following:

16 “(1) The number of homeless veterans provided
17 assistance under those programs.

18 “(2) The cost to the Department of providing
19 such assistance under those programs.

20 “(3) Any other information on those programs
21 and on the provision of such assistance that the Sec-
22 retary considers appropriate.

23 “(4) The Secretary’s evaluation of the effective-
24 ness of the programs of the Department (including
25 residential work-therapy programs, programs com-

1 bining outreach, community-based residential treat-
 2 ment, and case-management, and contract care pro-
 3 grams for alcohol and drug-dependence or use dis-
 4 abilities) in providing assistance to homeless vet-
 5 erans.

6 “(5) The Secretary’s evaluation of the effective-
 7 ness of programs established by recipients of grants
 8 under section 2011 of this title and a description of
 9 the experience of those recipients in applying for and
 10 receiving grants from the Secretary of Housing and
 11 Urban Development to serve primarily homeless per-
 12 sons who are veterans.”.

13 (2) The tables of chapters before part I and at the
 14 beginning of part II are each amended by inserting after
 15 the item relating to chapter 19 the following new item:

 “20. Benefits for homeless veterans 2001”.

16 (b) HEALTH CARE.—(1) Subchapter VII of chapter
 17 17 is transferred to chapter 20 (as added by subsection
 18 (a)), inserted after section 2021 (as so added), and redес-
 19 ignated as subchapter IV, and sections 1771, 1772, 1773,
 20 and 1774 therein are redesignated as sections 2031, 2032,
 21 2033, and 2034, respectively.

22 (2) Subsection (a)(3) of section 2031, as so trans-
 23 ferred and redesignated, is amended by striking “section
 24 1772 of this title” and inserting “section 2032 of this
 25 title”.

1 (c) HOUSING ASSISTANCE.—Section 3735 is trans-
 2 ferred to chapter 20 (as added by subsection (a)), inserted
 3 after the heading for subchapter V, and redesignated as
 4 section 2041.

5 (d) MULTIFAMILY TRANSITIONAL HOUSING.—(1)
 6 Subchapter VI of chapter 37 (other than section 3771)
 7 is transferred to chapter 20 (as added by subsection (a))
 8 and inserted after section 2041 (as transferred and redes-
 9 ignated by subsection (c)), and sections 3772, 3773, 3774,
 10 and 3775 therein are redesignated as sections 2051, 2052,
 11 2053, and 2054, respectively.

12 (2) Such subchapter is amended—

13 (A) in the heading, by striking “FOR HOME-
 14 LESS VETERANS”;

15 (B) in subsection (d)(1) of section 2051, as so
 16 transferred and redesignated, by striking “section
 17 3773 of this title” and inserting “section 2052 of
 18 this title”; and

19 (C) in subsection (a) of section 2052, as so
 20 transferred and redesignated, by striking “section
 21 3772 of this title” and inserting “section 2051 of
 22 this title”.

23 (3) Section 3771 is repealed.

24 (e) REPEAL OF CODIFIED PROVISIONS.—The fol-
 25 lowing provisions of law are repealed:

1 (1) Sections 3, 4, and 12 of the Homeless Vet-
2 erans Comprehensive Service Programs Act of 1992
3 (Public Law 102–590; 38 U.S.C. 7721 note).

4 (2) Section 1001 of the Veterans’ Benefits Im-
5 provements Act of 1994 (Public Law 103–446; 38
6 U.S.C. 7721 note).

7 (3) Section 4111.

8 (4) Section 738 of the McKinney-Vento Home-
9 less Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 11448).

10 (f) CLERICAL AMENDMENTS.—

11 (1) The table of sections at the beginning of
12 chapter 17 is amended by striking the item relating
13 to subchapter VII and the items relating to sections
14 1771, 1772, 1773, and 1774.

15 (2) The table of sections at the beginning of
16 chapter 37 is amended—

17 (A) by striking the item relating to section
18 3735; and

19 (B) by striking the item relating to sub-
20 chapter VI and the items relating to sections
21 3771, 3772, 3773, 3774, and 3775.

22 (3) The table of sections at the beginning of
23 chapter 41 is amended by striking the item relating
24 to section 4111.

1 **SEC. 4. RENTAL ASSISTANCE VOUCHERS FOR HUD VET-**
2 **ERANS AFFAIRS SUPPORTED HOUSING PRO-**
3 **GRAM.**

4 (a) INCREASE IN NUMBER OF VOUCHERS.—Section
5 8(o) of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C.
6 1437f(o)) is amended by adding at the end the following
7 new paragraph:

8 “(19) RENTAL VOUCHERS FOR VETERANS AF-
9 FAIRS SUPPORTED HOUSING PROGRAM.—

10 “(A) SET ASIDE.—Subject to subpara-
11 graph (C), the Secretary shall set aside, from
12 amounts made available for rental assistance
13 under this subsection, the amounts specified in
14 subparagraph (B) for use only for providing
15 such assistance through a supported housing
16 program administered in conjunction with the
17 Department of Veterans Affairs. Such program
18 shall provide rental assistance on behalf of
19 homeless veterans who have chronic mental ill-
20 nesses or chronic substance use disorders, shall
21 require agreement of the veteran to continued
22 treatment for such mental illness or substance
23 use disorder as a condition of receipt of such
24 rental assistance, and shall ensure such treat-
25 ment and appropriate case management for
26 each veteran receiving such rental assistance.

1 “(B) AMOUNT.—The amount specified in
2 this subparagraph is—

3 “(i) for fiscal year 2003, the amount
4 necessary to provide 500 vouchers for rent-
5 al assistance under this subsection;

6 “(ii) for fiscal year 2004, the amount
7 necessary to provide 1,000 vouchers for
8 rental assistance under this subsection;

9 “(iii) for fiscal year 2005, the amount
10 necessary to provide 1,500 vouchers for
11 rental assistance under this subsection;
12 and

13 “(iv) for fiscal year 2006, the amount
14 necessary to provide 2,000 vouchers for
15 rental assistance under this subsection.

16 “(C) FUNDING THROUGH INCREMENTAL
17 ASSISTANCE.—In any fiscal year, to the extent
18 that this paragraph requires the Secretary to
19 set aside rental assistance amounts for use
20 under this paragraph in an amount that ex-
21 ceeds that set aside in the preceding fiscal year,
22 such requirement shall be effective only to such
23 extent or in such amounts as are or have been
24 provided in appropriation Acts for such fiscal

1 year for incremental rental assistance under
2 this subsection.”.

3 (b) INCREASE IN NUMBER OF VHA CASE MAN-
4 AGERS.—The Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall ensure
5 that the number of case managers in the Veterans Health
6 Administration is sufficient to assure that every veteran
7 who is provided a housing voucher through section 8(o)
8 of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C.
9 1437f(o)) is assigned to, and is able to be seen as needed
10 by, a case manager.

11 **SEC. 5. INCREASE IN REPRESENTATIVE PAYEE SERVICES**
12 **FOR HOMELESS VETERANS.**

13 (a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 20 (as added by section
14 3(a)) is amended by inserting after section 2034 (as trans-
15 ferred and redesignated by section 3(b)) the following new
16 section:

17 **“§ 2035. Representative payee services**

18 “The Secretary shall seek to enter into contracts with
19 community agencies to provide representative payee serv-
20 ices for veterans who are not competent to manage their
21 own personal funds. Any such contract shall require that
22 an entity acting as representative payee for a veteran shall
23 work in consort with care providers of the Veterans Health
24 Administration to ensure that all Government funds are

1 used appropriately (such as for shelter, nutrition, and nec-
2 essary health care services).”.

3 (b) REPORT.—Not later than March 1, 2003, the
4 Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall submit to Congress a
5 report on the Secretary’s efforts to expand contracts de-
6 scribed in section 2035 of title 38, United States Code,
7 as added by subsection (a), and on savings from cost-of-
8 care avoidance resulting from such contracts.

9 **SEC. 6. JOINT METHODOLOGY TO MONITOR RESULTS OF**
10 **SERVICES FURNISHED TO HOMELESS VET-**
11 **ERANS.**

12 (a) RESULTS OF VETERANS FURNISHED SERVICES
13 UNDER FEDERAL HOMELESS PROGRAMS.—The Secretary
14 of Veterans Affairs and the Secretary of Housing and
15 Urban Development (hereinafter in this section referred
16 to as the “Secretaries”) shall jointly establish a method-
17 ology to monitor—

18 (1) veterans who have been furnished any serv-
19 ice under any program funded or operated by the
20 Department of Veterans Affairs or the Department
21 of Housing and Urban Development under which
22 services are furnished to homeless veterans; and

23 (2) any unmet demand by such veterans for any
24 such service.

1 (b) METHODOLOGY.—(1) The methodology under
2 subsection (a) shall include monitoring of standardized
3 measurements and outcomes of such services furnished to
4 veterans. Such standardized measurements and outcomes
5 include measurable improved performance outcomes in the
6 areas of mental illness, substance use disorders, general
7 health, housing, and employment.

8 (2) Such standardized measurements and outcomes
9 shall provide information with respect the following:

10 (A) Number of homeless veterans that reside in
11 suitable, permanent housing by reason of such serv-
12 ices.

13 (B) Number of homeless veterans employed,
14 and their employment earnings, by of such services.

15 (C) Number of homeless veterans that have
16 avoided relapses into the conditions that led to pre-
17 vious homelessness, such as mental illness or sub-
18 stance use disorders.

19 (D) Any other information that Secretaries de-
20 termine appropriate to evaluate the outcomes of
21 services furnished to homeless veterans.

22 (c) IMPLEMENTATION.—Not later than January 1,
23 2003, the Secretaries shall implement the methodology es-
24 tablished under subsection (a).

1 (d) ANNUAL REPORT.—Beginning with the annual
2 report to Congress required under section 2061 of title
3 38, United States Code, as added by section 3(a), for
4 2004, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, after consultation
5 with the Secretary of Labor, shall include in that annual
6 report results of the monitoring of homeless veterans re-
7 quired under this section.

8 **SEC. 7. ENHANCED-USE LEASES FOR FACILITIES THAT**
9 **SERVE HOMELESS VETERANS.**

10 (a) WAIVER OF COMPETITIVE SELECTION PROCESS
11 FOR ENHANCED-USE LEASES FOR PROPERTIES USED TO
12 SERVE HOMELESS VETERANS.—Section 8162(b)(1) is
13 amended—

14 (1) by inserting “(A)” after “(b)(1)”; and

15 (2) by adding at the end the following:

16 “(B) In the case of a property that the Secretary de-
17 termines is appropriate for use as a facility to furnish
18 services to homeless veterans under chapter 20 of this
19 title, the Secretary may enter into an enhanced-use lease
20 without regard to the selection procedures required under
21 subparagraph (A).”.

22 (b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by
23 subsection (a) shall apply to leases entered into on or after
24 the date of the enactment of this Act.

1 **SEC. 8. AUTHORIZATION OF ADDITIONAL DOMICILIARY**
2 **CARE PROGRAMS.**

3 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Veterans Affairs
4 may establish up to ten programs under section 1710(b)
5 of title 38, United States Code (in addition to any such
6 program that is established as of the date of the enact-
7 ment of this Act) to provide domiciliary services under sec-
8 tion 1710(b) of such title to homeless veterans (as defined
9 in section 2002(1) of such title (as added by section 3(a))).

10 (b) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
11 are authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary of Vet-
12 erans Affairs \$5,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2003 and
13 2004 to establish the programs referred to in subsection
14 (a).

15 **SEC. 9. DEMONSTRATION PROGRAM RELATING TO REFER-**
16 **RAL AND COUNSELING FOR VETERANS**
17 **TRANSITIONING FROM CERTAIN INSTITU-**
18 **TIONS WHO ARE AT RISK FOR HOMELESS-**
19 **NESS.**

20 (a) PROGRAM AUTHORITY.—The Secretary of Vet-
21 erans Affairs and the Secretary of Labor (hereinafter in
22 this section referred to as the “Secretaries”) shall carry
23 out a demonstration program for the purpose of deter-
24 mining the costs and benefits of providing referral and
25 counseling services to eligible veterans with respect to ben-

1 efits and services available to such veterans under title 38,
2 United States Code, and under State law.

3 (b) LOCATION OF DEMONSTRATION PROGRAM.—The
4 demonstration program shall be carried out in at least six
5 locations. One location shall be a penal institution under
6 the jurisdiction of the Bureau of Prisons.

7 (c) SCOPE OF PROGRAM.—(1) To the extent prac-
8 ticable, the demonstration program shall provide both re-
9 ferral and counseling, and in the case of counseling, shall
10 include counseling with respect to job training and place-
11 ment, housing, health care, and such other benefits to as-
12 sist the eligible veteran in the transition from institutional
13 living.

14 (2)(A) To the extent that referral or counseling serv-
15 ices are provided at a location under the program, referral
16 services shall be provided in person during the 60-day pe-
17 riod that precedes the date of release or discharge of the
18 eligible veteran under subsection (f)(1)(B), and counseling
19 services shall be furnished after such date.

20 (B) The Secretaries may furnish to officials of penal
21 institutions outreach information with respect to referral
22 and counseling services for presentation to veterans in the
23 custody of such officials during the 18-month period that
24 precedes such date of release or discharge.

1 (3) The Secretaries may enter into contracts to carry
2 out the counseling required under the demonstration pro-
3 gram with entities or organizations that meet such re-
4 quirements as the Secretaries may establish.

5 (4) In developing the demonstration program, the
6 Secretaries shall consult with officials of the Bureau of
7 Prisons, officials of penal institutions of States and polit-
8 ical subdivisions of States, and such other officials as the
9 Secretaries determine appropriate.

10 (d) REPORT.—(1) Not later than two years after the
11 commencement of the demonstration program, the Sec-
12 retary of Veterans Affairs (after consultation with the Sec-
13 retary of Labor) shall submit to the Committees on Vet-
14 erans' Affairs of the Senate and the House of Representa-
15 tives a report on the program.

16 (2) The report under paragraph (1) shall include the
17 following:

18 (A) A description of the implementation and
19 operation of the program.

20 (B) An evaluation of the effectiveness of the
21 program.

22 (C) Recommendations, if any, regarding an ex-
23 tension of the program.

24 (e) DURATION.—The authority of the Secretaries to
25 provide counseling services under the demonstration pro-

1 gram shall cease on the date that is four years after the
2 date of the commencement of the demonstration program.

3 (f) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

4 (1) The term “eligible veteran” means a vet-
5 eran who—

6 (A) is a resident of a penal institution or
7 an institution that provides long-term care for
8 mental illness;

9 (B) is expected to be imminently released
10 or discharged (as the case may be) from the fa-
11 cility or institution; and

12 (C) is at risk for homelessness absent re-
13 ferral and counseling services provided under
14 the program (as determined under guidelines
15 established by the Secretaries).

16 (2) The term “veteran” has the meaning given
17 that term under section 101(2) of title 38, United
18 States Code.

19 (3) The term “imminent” means, with respect
20 to a release or discharge under paragraph (1)(B),
21 the 60-day period that ends on the date of such re-
22 lease or discharge.

1 **SEC. 10. DEMONSTRATION PROGRAM FOR GRANTS FOR**
2 **INDEPENDENT GROUP HOMES FOR RECOV-**
3 **ERING VETERANS.**

4 (a) ESTABLISHMENT OF GRANT PROGRAM.—The
5 Secretary of Veterans Affairs (hereinafter in this section
6 referred to as the “Secretary”) shall carry out a dem-
7 onstration program under which the Secretary shall make
8 grants to eligible entities to establish a project to provide
9 independent housing units in group houses sponsored by
10 the entities for occupancy by veterans recovering from al-
11 cohol or other substance use disorders.

12 (b) MAXIMUM GRANT AMOUNT PER GROUP
13 HOUSE.—The amount of any individual grant under this
14 program for the establishment of a group house may not
15 exceed \$5,000.

16 (c) ELIGIBLE ENTITY.—The Secretary may make a
17 grant under this section to an entity applying for such
18 a grant only if the applicant for the grant—

19 (1) is a nonprofit private entity with the capac-
20 ity (as determined by the Secretary) to effectively
21 carry out a grant under this section;

22 (2) has demonstrated that adequate financial
23 support will be available to carry out the project for
24 which the grant has been sought consistent with the
25 plans, specifications, and schedule submitted by the
26 applicant; and

1 (3) has agreed to meet the applicable criteria
2 and requirements established under subsection (e)
3 (and the Secretary has determined that the appli-
4 cant has demonstrated the capacity to meet those
5 criteria and requirements).

6 (d) APPLICATION REQUIREMENT.—In order to re-
7 ceive a grant under this section, an eligible entity shall
8 submit to the Secretary an application. The application
9 shall set forth the following:

10 (1) The amount of the grant requested with re-
11 spect to a project.

12 (2) A description of the site for such project.

13 (3) Plans, specifications, and the schedule for
14 implementation of such project in accordance with
15 requirements prescribed by the Secretary under sub-
16 section (e).

17 (e) PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS.—The Secretary may
18 not make a grant to an applicant under this section unless
19 the applicant, in the application for the grant, agrees to
20 each of the following requirements:

21 (1) The eligible entity has in effect policies
22 that—

23 (A) prohibit the use of alcohol or any ille-
24 gal drug in the group house;

1 (B) provide for the immediate expulsion of
2 any resident of the group house who violates
3 the prohibition described in subparagraph (A);

4 (C) provide that payment for the costs of
5 the housing, including fees for rent, and utili-
6 ties, and all other fees applicable under residen-
7 tial leases on the part of the tenant, are made
8 by the residents of the group house; and

9 (D) provide that rules of conduct for resi-
10 dents of the group house are made by majority
11 vote of the residents, including rules regarding
12 the manner in which applications for residence
13 in the group house are approved.

14 (2) A group house shall provide for residence of
15 not more than 10 veterans.

16 (f) RECOVERY OF GRANT FUNDS.—(1) If an eligible
17 entity does not establish a project in accordance with the
18 requirements of this section or ceases to be in accordance
19 with such requirements for which the grant was made, the
20 United States shall be entitled to recover from such entity
21 the total of all unused grant amounts made under this
22 section to such recipient or entity in connection with such
23 project.

24 (2) Any amount recovered by the United States under
25 paragraph (1) may be obligated by the Secretary without

1 fiscal year limitation to carry out provisions of this sec-
2 tion.

3 (g) REGULATIONS.—Not later than 180 days after
4 the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall
5 promulgate regulations to carry out the demonstration
6 program under this section.

7 (h) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—For pur-
8 poses of carrying out this section, there is authorized to
9 be appropriated to the Secretary of Veterans Affairs
10 \$250,000 for each of fiscal years 2003 and 2004.

11 (i) REPORT.—Not later than three years after the
12 date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall sub-
13 mit to the Committees on Veterans' Affairs of the Senate
14 and House of Representatives a report describing the
15 grants made under this section. The report shall include
16 the following:

17 (1) An assessment of the effectiveness of the
18 demonstration program, including the number of
19 grants awarded.

20 (2) The geographic locations of the group
21 houses established under the program.

22 (3) The number of veterans residing in each
23 group house, the average number of veterans in all
24 group houses, and the average length of stay for vet-
25 erans in group houses.

1 (4) The number of veterans who were expelled
2 from such group houses.

3 (5) Recommendations for extending, expanding,
4 or modifying the program or funding under this sec-
5 tion.

