Calendar No. 201 ^{107TH CONGRESS} ^{107TH CONGRESS}

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

OCTOBER 17, 2001 Received; read twice and placed on the calendar

AN ACT

- 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,

	2
1	SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS; REF-
2	ERENCES TO TITLE 38, UNITED STATES CODE.
3	(a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the
4	"Stuart Collick—Heather French Henry Homeless Vet-
5	erans Assistance Act".
6	(b) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents of
7	this Act is as follows:
	 Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents; references to title 38, United States Code. Sec. 2. Definitions. Sec. 3. National goal to end homelessness among veterans. Sec. 4. Sense of the Congress regarding the needs of homeless veterans and the responsibility of Federal agencies.

- Sec. 5. Consolidation and improvement of provisions of law relating to homeless veterans.
- Sec. 6. Evaluation of homeless programs.
- Sec. 7. Study of outcome effectiveness of grant program for homeless veterans with special needs.
- Sec. 8. Additional programmatic expansions.
- Sec. 9. Coordination of employment services.
- Sec. 10. Use of real property.
- Sec. 11. Meetings of Interagency Council on Homeless.
- Sec. 12. Rental assistance vouchers for HUD Veterans Affairs Supported Housing program.

8 (c) REFERENCES TO TITLE 38 UNITED STATES 9 CODE.—Except as otherwise expressly provided, whenever 10 in this Act an amendment or repeal is expressed in terms 11 of an amendment to, or repeal of, a section or other provi-12 sion, the reference shall be considered to be made to a 13 section or other provision of title 38, United States Code.

14 SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.

- 15 For purposes of this Act:
- 16 (1) The term "homeless veteran" has the mean-
- 17 ing given such term in section 2002 of title 38,
- 18 United States Code, as added by section 5(a)(1).

(2) The term "grant and per diem provider" 1 2 means an entity in receipt of a grant under section 3 2011 or 2012 of title 38, United States Code. 4 SEC. 3. NATIONAL GOAL TO END HOMELESSNESS AMONG 5 VETERANS. 6 (a) NATIONAL GOAL.—Congress hereby declares it to be a national goal to end chronic homelessness among vet-7 8 erans within a decade of the enactment of this Act. 9 (b) COOPERATIVE EFFORTS ENCOURAGED.—Con-10 gress hereby encourages all departments and agencies of Federal, State, and local governments, quasi-governmental 11 12 organizations, private and public sector entities, including 13 community-based organizations, faith-based organizations, 14 and individuals to work cooperatively to end chronic home-15 lessness among veterans within a decade. 16 SEC. 4. SENSE OF THE CONGRESS REGARDING THE NEEDS 17 OF HOMELESS VETERANS AND THE RESPON-18 SIBILITY OF FEDERAL AGENCIES. 19 It is the sense of the Congress that— 20 (1) homelessness is a significant problem in the 21 veterans community and veterans are disproportion-22 ately represented among homeless men; 23 (2) While many effective programs assist home-24 less veterans to again become productive and self-25 sufficient members of society, current resources pro-

1	vided to such programs and other activities that as-
2	sist homeless veterans are inadequate to provide all
3	needed essential services, assistance, and support to
4	homeless veterans;
5	(3) the most effective programs for the assist-
6	ance of homeless veterans should be identified and
7	expanded;
8	(4) federally funded programs for homeless vet-
9	erans should be held accountable for achieving clear-
10	ly defined results;
11	(5) Federal efforts to assist homeless veterans
12	should include prevention of homelessness; and
13	(6) Federal agencies, particularly the Depart-
14	ment of Veterans Affairs and the Department of
15	Housing and Urban Development, should cooperate
16	more fully to address the problem of homelessness
17	among veterans.
18	SEC. 5. CONSOLIDATION AND IMPROVEMENT OF PROVI-
19	SIONS OF LAW RELATING TO HOMELESS VET-
20	ERANS.
21	(a) IN GENERAL.—(1) Part II is amended by insert-
22	ing after chapter 19 the following new chapter:
23	"CHAPTER 20—BENEFITS FOR HOMELESS
24	VETERANS

"SUBCHAPTER I—PURPOSE; DEFINITIONS; ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

"Sec.

- "2001. Purpose.
- "2002. Definitions.
- "2003. Staffing requirements.
- "2004. Employment assistance.

"SUBCHAPTER II—COMPREHENSIVE SERVICE PROGRAMS

- "2011. Grants.
- "2012. Per diem payments.
- "2013. Authorization of appropriations.

"SUBCHAPTER III—TRAINING AND OUTREACH

- "2021. Homeless veterans' reintegration programs.
- "2022. Coordination of outreach services for veterans at risk of homelessness.
- "2023. Demonstration program relating to referral and counseling for veterans transitioning from certain institutions who are at risk for homelessness.

"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.

"SUBCHAPTER V—HOUSING ASSISTANCE

- "2041. Housing assistance for homeless veterans.
- "2042. Supported housing for veterans participating in compensated work therapies.
- "2043. Domiciliary care programs.

"SUBCHAPTER VI—LOAN GUARANTEE FOR MULTIFAMILY TRANSITIONAL HOUSING

- "2051. General authority.
- "2052. Requirements.
- "2053. Default.
- "2054. Audit.

"SUBCHAPTER VII—OTHER PROVISIONS

- "2061. Grant program for homeless veterans with special needs.
- "2062. Dental care.
- "2063. Technical assistance grants for nonprofit community-based groups.
- "2064. Annual report on assistance to homeless veterans.
- "2065. Advisory Committee on Homeless Veterans.

"SUBCHAPTER I—PURPOSE; DEFINITIONS; ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

3 "§ 2001. Purpose

4 "The purpose of this chapter is to provide for the5 special needs of homeless veterans.

6 **"§ 2002. Definitions**

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7	"In this chapter:
8	((1) The term 'homeless veteran' means a vet-
9	eran who—
10	"(A) lacks a fixed, regular, and adequate
11	nighttime residence; or
12	"(B) has a primary nighttime residence
13	that is—
14	"(i) a supervised publicly or privately
15	operated shelter designed to provide tem-
16	porary living accommodations (including
17	welfare hotels, congregate shelters, grant
18	per diem shelters and transitional housing
19	for the mentally ill);
20	"(ii) an institution that provides a
21	temporary residence for individuals in-
22	tended to be institutionalized; or
23	"(iii) a public or private place not de-
24	signed for, or ordinarily used as, a regular
25	sleeping accommodation for human beings.

"(2) The term 'grant and per diem provider'
 means an entity in receipt of a grant under section
 2011 or 2012 of this title.

4 "§ 2003. Staffing requirements

"(a) VBA STAFFING AT REGIONAL OFFICES.—The 5 Secretary shall ensure that there is assigned at each Vet-6 7 erans Benefits Administration regional office at least one 8 employee assigned specifically to oversee and coordinate 9 homeless veterans programs in that region. In any such 10 regional office with at least 140 employees, there shall be at least one full-time employee assigned to such functions. 11 12 The programs covered by such oversight and coordination include the following: 13

14 "(1) The housing program for veterans sup15 ported by the Department of Housing and Urban
16 Development.

17 "(2) Housing programs supported by the Sec-18 retary under this title or any other provision of law.

19 "(3) The homeless veterans reintegration pro20 gram of the Department of Labor under section
21 2021 of this title.

22 "(4) The programs under section 2033 of this23 title.

24 "(5) The assessments required by section 2034
25 of this title.

"(6) Such other duties relating to homeless vet erans as may be assigned.

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

10 "§ 2004. Employment assistance

"The Secretary may authorize homeless veterans receiving care through vocational rehabilitation programs to
participate in the compensated work therapy program
under section 1718 of this title.

15 "SUBCHAPTER II—COMPREHENSIVE SERVICE

16

PROGRAMS

17 "§ 2011. Grants

18 "(a) AUTHORITY TO MAKE GRANTS.—(1) Subject to 19 the availability of appropriations provided for such pur-20 pose, the Secretary shall make grants to assist eligible en-21 titles in establishing programs to furnish, and expanding 22 or modifying existing programs for furnishing, the fol-23 lowing to homeless veterans:

24 "(A) Outreach.

25 "(B) Rehabilitative services.

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1	"(C) Vocational counseling and training
2	"(D) Transitional housing assistance.
3	"(2) The authority of the Secretary to make grants
4	under this section expires on September 30, 2005.
5	"(b) Criteria for Award of Grants.—The Sec-
6	retary shall establish criteria and requirements for the
7	award of a grant under this section, including criteria for
8	entities eligible to receive such grants, and shall publish
9	such criteria and requirements in the Federal Register.
10	The criteria established under this section shall include
11	the following:
12	"(1) Specification as to the kinds of projects for
13	which such grant support is available, which shall
14	include—
15	"(A) expansion, remodeling, or alteration
16	of existing buildings, or acquisition of facilities,
17	for use as service centers, transitional housing,
18	or other facilities to serve homeless veterans;
19	and
20	"(B) procurement of vans for use in out-
21	reach to, and transportation for, homeless vet-
22	erans to carry out the purposes set forth in
23	subsection (a).
24	"(2) Specification as to the number of projects
25	for which grant support is available.

1	((3) Appropriate criteria for the staffing for the
2	provision of the services for which a grant under this
3	section is furnished.
4	"(4) Provisions to ensure that the award of
5	grants under this section—
6	"(A) shall not result in duplication of on-
7	going services; and
8	"(B) to the maximum extent practicable,
9	shall reflect appropriate geographic dispersion
10	and an appropriate balance between urban and
11	nonurban locations.
12	"(5) Provisions to ensure that an entity receiv-
13	ing a grant shall meet fire and safety requirements
14	established by the Secretary, which shall include—
15	"(A) such State and community require-
16	ments that may apply; and
17	"(B) the fire and safety requirements ap-
18	plicable under the Life Safety Code of the Na-
19	tional Fire Protection Association.
20	"(6) Specifications as to the means by which an
21	entity receiving a grant may contribute in-kind serv-
22	ices to the start-up costs of any project for which
23	support is sought and the methodology for assigning
24	a cost to that contribution for purposes of subsection
25	(c).

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

7 "(d) ELIGIBLE ENTITIES.—The Secretary may make
8 a grant under this section to an entity applying for such
9 a grant only if the applicant for the grant—

"(1) is a public or nonprofit private entity with
the capacity (as determined by the Secretary) to effectively administer a grant under this section;

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

"(3) has agreed to meet the applicable criteria
and requirements established under subsections (b)
and (g) (and the Secretary has determined that the
applicant has demonstrated the capacity to meet
those criteria and requirements).

23 "(e) APPLICATION REQUIREMENT.—An entity de-24 scribed in subsection (d) desiring to receive assistance

1	under this section shall submit to the Secretary an appli-
2	cation. The application shall set forth the following:
3	"(1) The amount of the grant requested with
4	respect to a project.
5	"(2) A description of the site for such project.
6	"(3) Plans, specifications, and the schedule for
7	implementation of such project in accordance with
8	requirements prescribed by the Secretary under sub-
9	section (b).
10	"(4) Reasonable assurance that upon comple-
11	tion of the work for which assistance is sought, the
12	program will become operational and the facilities
13	will be used principally to provide to veterans the
14	services for which the project was designed, and that
15	not more than 25 percent of the services provided
16	will serve clients who are not receiving such services
17	as veterans.
18	"(f) Program Requirements.—The Secretary may
19	not make a grant to an applicant under this section unless
20	the applicant, in the application for the grant, agrees to
21	each of the following requirements:
22	"(1) To provide the services for which the grant
23	is furnished at locations accessible to homeless vet-
24	erans.

"(2) To maintain referral networks for, and aid
 homeless veterans in, establishing eligibility for as sistance, and obtaining services, under available enti tlement and assistance programs.

5 "(3) To ensure the confidentiality of records
6 maintained on homeless veterans receiving services
7 under the grant.

8 "(4) To establish such procedures for fiscal 9 control and fund accounting as may be necessary to 10 ensure proper disbursement and accounting with re-11 spect to the grant and to such payments as may be 12 made under section 2012 of this title.

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

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

"(1) That such center provide services to homeless veterans during such hours as the Secretary
may specify and be open to such veterans on an asneeded, unscheduled basis.

"(2) That space at such center will be made
available, as mutually agreeable, for use by staff of
the Department of Veterans Affairs, the Department
of Labor, and other appropriate agencies and organizations in assisting homeless veterans served by
such center.

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

13 "(4) That such center may be equipped and 14 staffed to provide, or to assist in providing, job 15 training and job placement services (including job 16 readiness, job counseling, and literacy and skills 17 training), as well as any outreach and case manage-18 ment services that may be necessary to carry out 19 this paragraph.

"(h) RECOVERY OF UNUSED GRANT FUNDS.—(1) If
a grant recipient (or entity eligible for such a grant) under
this section does not establish a program in accordance
with this section or ceases to furnish services under such
a program for which the grant was made, the United
States shall be entitled to recover from such recipient or

entity the total of all unused grant amounts made under
 this section to such recipient or entity in connection with
 such program.

4 "(2) Any amount recovered by the United States
5 under paragraph (1) may be obligated by the Secretary
6 without fiscal year limitation to carry out provisions of
7 this subchapter.

8 "(3) An amount may not be recovered under para-9 graph (1) as an unused grant amount before the end of 10 the three-year period beginning on the date on which the 11 grant is awarded.

12 "§ 2012. Per diem payments

13 "(a) PER DIEM PAYMENTS FOR FURNISHING SERV-ICES TO HOMELESS VETERANS.—(1) Subject to the avail-14 15 ability of appropriations provided for such purpose, the Secretary, pursuant to such criteria as the Secretary shall 16 17 prescribe, shall provide to a recipient of a grant under sec-18 tion 2011 of this title (or an entity eligible to receive a 19 grant under that section which after November 10, 1992, 20 establishes a program that the Secretary determines car-21 ries out the purposes described in that section) per diem 22 payments for services furnished to any homeless veteran— "(A) whom the Secretary has referred to the 23

24 grant recipient (or entity eligible for such a grant);25 or

"(B) for whom the Secretary has authorized the
 provision of services.

3 "(2) The rate for such per diem payments shall be
4 the rate authorized for State homes for domiciliary care
5 under section 1741(a)(1)(A) of this title.

6 "(3) In a case in which the Secretary has authorized
7 the provision of services, per diem payments under para8 graph (1) may be paid retroactively for services provided
9 not more than three days before the authorization was
10 provided.

11 "(b) INSPECTIONS.—The Secretary may inspect any 12 facility of an entity eligible for payments under subsection 13 (a) at such times as the Secretary considers necessary. No 14 per diem payment may be made to an entity under this 15 section unless the facilities of that entity meet such stand-16 ards as the Secretary shall prescribe.

"(c) LIFE SAFETY CODE.—(1) Except as provided in
paragraph (2), a per diem payment may not be provided
under this section to a grant recipient unless the facilities
of the grant recipient meet the fire and safety requirements applicable under the Life Safety Code of the National Fire Protection Association.

23 "(2) During the five-year period beginning on the
24 date of the enactment of this section, paragraph (1) shall
25 not apply to an entity that received a grant under section

3 of the Homeless Veterans Comprehensive Service Pro 2 grams Act of 1992 (Public Law 102–590; 38 U.S.C. 7721
 3 note) before that date if the entity meets fire and safety
 4 requirements established by the Secretary.

5 "(3) From amounts available for purposes of this sec6 tion, not less than \$5,000,000 shall be used only for
7 grants to assist entities covered by paragraph (2) in meet8 ing the Life Safety Code of the National Fire Protection
9 Association.

10 "§ 2013. Authorization of appropriations

11 "There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out12 this subchapter amounts as follows:

13 "(1) \$60,000,000 for fiscal year 2002.

14 "(2) \$75,000,000 for fiscal year 2003.

- 15 "(3) \$75,000,000 for fiscal year 2004.
- 16 "(4) \$75,000,000 for fiscal year 2005.

17 "SUBCHAPTER III—TRAINING AND OUTREACH

18 "§ 2021. Homeless veterans' reintegration programs

19 "(a) IN GENERAL.—Subject to the availability of ap-20 propriations provided for under subsection (d) and made 21 available for such purpose, the Secretary of Labor shall 22 conduct, directly or through grant or contract, such pro-23 grams as the Secretary determines appropriate to provide 24 job training, counseling, and placement services to expedite the reintegration of homeless veterans into the labor
 force.

3 "(b) REQUIREMENT TO MONITOR EXPENDITURES 4 OF FUNDS.—(1) The Secretary of Labor shall collect such information as the Secretary considers appropriate to 5 monitor and evaluate the distribution and expenditure of 6 7 funds appropriated to carry out this section. The informa-8 tion shall include data with respect to the results or out-9 comes of the services provided to each homeless veteran under this section. 10

11 "(2) The information under paragraph (1) shall be
12 furnished to the Secretary of Labor in such form as the
13 Secretary considers appropriate.

14 "(c) ADMINISTRATION THROUGH THE ASSISTANT
15 SECRETARY OF LABOR FOR VETERANS' EMPLOYMENT
16 AND TRAINING.—The Secretary of Labor shall carry out
17 this section through the Assistant Secretary of Labor for
18 Veterans' Employment and Training.

"(d) ANNUAL REPORT TO CONGRESS.—The Secretary of Labor shall submit to Congress an annual report
that evaluates services furnished to veterans under this
section, and includes an analysis of the information collected under subsection (c).

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

4 "(A) \$50,000,000 for fiscal year 2002.
5 "(B) \$50,000,000 for fiscal year 2003.
6 "(C) \$50,000,000 for fiscal year 2004.
7 "(D) \$50,000,000 for fiscal year 2005.
8 "(E) \$50,000,000 for fiscal year 2006.
9 "(2) Funds appropriated to carry out this section

10 shall remain available until expended. Funds obligated in
11 any fiscal year to carry out this section may be expended
12 in that fiscal year and the succeeding fiscal year.

13 "§ 2022. Coordination of outreach services for veterans at risk of homelessness

15 "(a) OUTREACH PLAN.—The Secretary, acting through the Under Secretary for Health, shall provide for 16 17 appropriate officials of the Mental Health Service and the 18 Readjustment Counseling Service of the Veterans Health 19 Administration to initiate a coordinated plan for joint outreach to veterans at risk of homelessness, including par-20 21 ticularly veterans who are being discharged from institu-22 tions (including discharges from inpatient psychiatric 23 care, substance abuse treatment programs, and penal institutions). 24

1	"(b) MATTERS TO BE INCLUDED.—The outreach
2	plan under subsection (a) shall include the following:
3	"(1) Strategies to identify and collaborate with
4	external entities used by veterans who have not tra-
5	ditionally used Department services to further out-
6	reach efforts.
7	"(2) Strategies to ensure that mentoring pro-
8	grams, recovery support groups, and other appro-
9	priate support networks are optimally available to
10	veterans.
11	"(3) Appropriate programs or referrals to fam-
12	ily support programs.
13	"(4) Means to increase access to case manage-
14	ment services.
15	"(5) Plans for making additional employment
16	services accessible to veterans.
17	"(6) Appropriate referral sources for mental
18	health and substance abuse services.
19	"(c) COOPERATIVE RELATIONSHIPS.—The plan shall
20	identify strategies for the Department to enter into formal
21	cooperative relationships with entities outside the Depart-
22	ment to facilitate making services and resources optimally
23	available to veterans.

"(d) REVIEW OF PLAN.—The Secretary shall submit
 the plan under subsection (a) to the Advisory Committee
 on Homeless Veterans for its review and consultation.

4 "(e) OUTREACH PROGRAM.—(1) The Secretary shall
5 carry out an outreach program to provide information to
6 homeless veterans and veterans at risk of homelessness.
7 The program shall include at a minimum—

8 "(A) provision of information about benefits
9 available to eligible veterans from the Department;
10 and

"(B) contact information for local Department
facilities, including medical facilities, regional offices,
and veterans centers.

14 "(2) In developing and carrying out the program 15 under paragraph (1), the Secretary shall, to the extent 16 practicable, consult with appropriate public and private or-17 ganizations, including the Bureau of Prisons, State social 18 service agencies, the Department of Defense, and mental 19 health, veterans, and homeless advocates—

20 "(A) for assistance in identifying and con21 tacting veterans who are homeless or at risk of
22 homelessness;

23 "(B) to coordinate appropriate outreach activi-24 ties with those organizations; and

"(C) to coordinate services provided to veterans with services provided by those organizations.

3 "(f) SUBMISSION OF REPORT.—Not later than two 4 years after the date of the enactment of this section, the 5 Secretary shall submit to the Committees on Veterans' Af-6 fairs of the Senate and House of Representatives a report 7 on the Secretary's plan under subsection (a), including 8 goals and time lines for implementation of the plan for 9 particular facilities and service networks.

10 "§ 2023. Demonstration program relating to referral
and counseling for veterans transitioning
from certain institutions who are at risk
for homelessness

14 "(a) PROGRAM AUTHORITY.—The Secretary and the 15 Secretary of Labor (hereinafter in this section referred to 16 as the 'Secretaries') shall carry out a demonstration pro-17 gram for the purpose of determining the costs and benefits 18 of providing referral and counseling services to eligible vet-19 erans with respect to benefits and services available to 20 such veterans under this title and under State law.

21 "(b) LOCATION OF DEMONSTRATION PROGRAM.—
22 The demonstration program shall be carried out in at least
23 six locations. One location shall be a penal institution
24 under the jurisdiction of the Bureau of Prisons.

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1 "(c) SCOPE OF PROGRAM.—(1) To the extent prac-2 ticable, the demonstration program shall provide both re-3 ferral and counseling, and in the case of counseling, shall 4 include counseling with respect to job training and place-5 ment, housing, health care, and such other benefits to as-6 sist the eligible veteran in the transition from institutional 7 living.

8 "(2)(A) To the extent that referral or counseling 9 services are provided at a location under the program, re-10 ferral services shall be provided in person during the 60-11 day period that precedes the date of release or discharge 12 of the eligible veteran under subsection (f)(1)(B), and 13 counseling services shall be furnished after such date.

14 "(B) The Secretaries may furnish to officials of penal 15 institutions outreach information with respect to referral 16 and counseling services for presentation to veterans in the 17 custody of such officials during the 18-month period that 18 precedes such date of release or discharge.

"(3) The Secretaries may enter into contracts to
carry out the counseling required under the demonstration
program with entities or organizations that meet such requirements as the Secretaries may establish.

"(4) In developing the demonstration program, the
Secretaries shall consult with officials of the Bureau of
Prisons, officials of penal institutions of States and polit-

ical subdivisions of States, and such other officials as the
 Secretaries determine appropriate.

3 "(d) REPORT.—(1) Not later than two years after the
4 commencement of the demonstration program, the Sec5 retary (after consultation with the Secretary of Labor)
6 shall submit to the Committees on Veterans' Affairs of
7 the Senate and the House of Representatives a report on
8 the program.

9 "(2) The report under paragraph (1) shall include the10 following:

11 "(A) A description of the implementation and12 operation of the program.

13 "(B) An evaluation of the effectiveness of the14 program.

15 "(C) Recommendations, if any, regarding an ex-16 tension of the program.

17 "(e) DURATION.—The authority of the Secretaries to
18 provide counseling services under the demonstration pro19 gram shall cease on the date that is four years after the
20 date of the commencement of the demonstration program.

21 "(f) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

22 "(1) The term 'eligible veteran' means a vet-23 eran who—

1	"(A) is a resident of a penal institution or
2	an institution that provides long-term care for
3	mental illness;
4	"(B) is expected to be imminently released
5	or discharged (as the case may be) from the fa-
6	cility or institution; and
7	"(C) is at risk for homelessness absent re-
8	ferral and counseling services provided under
9	the program (as determined under guidelines
10	established by the Secretaries).
11	((2) The term 'imminent' means, with respect
12	to a release or discharge under paragraph $(1)(B)$,
13	the 60-day period that ends on the date of such re-
14	lease or discharge.
15	"SUBCHAPTER V—HOUSING ASSISTANCE
16	"§2042. Supported housing for veterans participating
17	in compensated work therapies
18	"The Secretary may authorize homeless veterans in
19	the compensated work therapy program to be provided
20	housing through the therapeutic residence program under
21	section 2032 of title or through grant and per diem pro-
22	viders under subchapter II of this chapter.
23	"§2043. Domiciliary care programs
24	"(a) AUTHORITY.—The Secretary may establish up
25	to 10 programs under section 1710(b) of this title (in ad-

dition to any such program that is established as of the
 date of the enactment of this section) to provide domi ciliary services under such section to homeless veterans.

4 "(b) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
5 are authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary
6 \$5,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2003 and 2004 to es7 tablish the programs referred to in subsection (a).

8 "SUBCHAPTER VII—OTHER PROVISIONS

9 "§ 2061. Grant program for homeless veterans with 10 special needs

11 "(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary shall carry 12 out a program to make grants to health care facilities of 13 the Department and to grant and per diem providers in 14 order to encourage development by those facilities and 15 providers of programs targeted at meeting special needs 16 within the population of homeless veterans.

17 "(b) SPECIAL NEEDS.—For purposes of this section,
18 homeless veterans with special needs include homeless vet19 erans who—

- 20 "(1) are women;
- 21 "(2) are 50 years of age or older;
- 22 "(3) are substance abusers;
- 23 "(4) are persons with post-traumatic stress dis24 order;
- 25 "(5) are terminally ill;

"(6) are chronically mentally ill; or
 "(7) have care of minor dependents or other
 family members.

4 "(c) FUNDING.—(1) From amounts appropriated to
5 the Department for 'Medical Care' for each of fiscal years
6 2003, 2004, and 2005, the amount of \$10,000,000 shall
7 be available for the purposes of the program under this
8 section.

9 "(2) The Secretary shall ensure that funds for grants 10 under this section are designated for the first three years 11 of operation of the program under this section as a special 12 purpose program for which funds are not allocated 13 through the Veterans Equitable Resource Allocation sys-14 tem.

15 **"§ 2062. Dental care**

16 "(a) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of section
17 1712(a)(1)(H) of this title, outpatient dental services and
18 treatment of a dental condition or disability of a veteran
19 described in subsection (b) shall be considered to be medi20 cally necessary, subject to subsection (c), if—

21 "(1) the dental services and treatment are nec22 essary for the veteran to successfully gain or regain
23 employment;

24 "(2) the dental services and treatment are nec-25 essary to alleviate pain; or

1	((3) the dental services and treatment are nec-
2	essary for treatment of moderate, severe, or severe
3	and complicated gingival and periodontal pathology.
4	"(b) ELIGIBLE VETERANS.—Subsection (a) applies
5	to a veteran who is—
6	"(1) enrolled for care under section 1705(a) of
7	this title; and
8	((2) who is receiving care (directly or by con-
9	tract) in any of the following settings:
10	"(A) A domiciliary under section 1710 of
11	this title.
12	"(B) A therapeutic residence under section
13	2032 of this title.
14	"(C) Community residential care coordi-
15	nated by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs
16	under section 1730 of this title.
17	"(D) A setting for which the Secretary
18	provides funds for a grant and per diem pro-
19	vider.
20	"(c) LIMITATION.—Dental benefits provided by rea-
21	son of this section shall be a one-time course of dental
22	care provided in the same manner as the dental benefits
23	provided to a newly discharged veteran.

3 "(a) GRANT PROGRAM.—The Secretary shall carry 4 out a program to make technical assistance grants to non-5 profit community-based groups with experience in pro-6 viding assistance to homeless veterans in order to assist 7 such groups in applying for grants under this chapter and 8 other grants relating to addressing problems of homeless 9 veterans.

"(b) FUNDING.—There is authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary the amount of \$750,000 for each
of fiscal years 2002 through 2005 to carry out the program under this section.

14 "§ 2064. Annual report on assistance to homeless veterans

16 "(a) ANNUAL REPORT.—Not later than April 15 of each year, the Secretary shall submit to the Committees 17 on Veterans' Affairs of the Senate and House of Rep-18 19 resentatives a report on the activities of the Department during the calendar year preceding the report under pro-20 21 grams of the Department under this chapter and other 22 programs of the Department for the provision of assist-23 ance to homeless veterans.

24 "(b) GENERAL CONTENTS OF REPORT.—Each report25 under subsection (a) shall include the following:

1	"(1) The number of homeless veterans provided
2	assistance under those programs.
3	"(2) The cost to the Department of providing
4	such assistance under those programs.
5	"(3) Any other information on those programs
6	and on the provision of such assistance that the Sec-
7	retary considers appropriate.
8	"(4) The Secretary's evaluation of the effective-
9	ness of the programs of the Department (including
10	residential work-therapy programs, programs com-
11	bining outreach, community-based residential treat-
12	ment, and case-management, and contract care pro-
13	grams for alcohol and drug-dependence or use dis-
14	abilities) in providing assistance to homeless vet-
15	erans.
16	"(5) The Secretary's evaluation of the effective-
17	ness of programs established by recipients of grants
18	under section 2011 of this title and a description of
19	the experience of those recipients in applying for and
20	receiving grants from the Secretary of Housing and
21	Urban Development to serve primarily homeless per-
22	sons who are veterans.
23	"(c) Health Care Contents of Report.—Each
24	report under subsection (a) shall include the following with

1	respect to programs of the Department addressing health
2	care needs of homeless veterans:
3	"(1) Information about expenditures, costs, and
4	workload under the program of the Department
5	known as the Health Care for Homeless Veterans
6	program (HCHV).
7	"(2) Information about the veterans contacted
8	through that program.
9	"(3) Information about processes under that
10	program.
11	"(4) Information about program treatment out-
12	comes under that program.
13	"(5) Information about supported housing pro-
14	grams.
15	"(6) Information about the Department's grant
16	and per diem provider program under subchapter II
17	of this chapter.
18	"(7) Other information the Secretary considers
19	relevant in assessing the program.
20	"§ 2065. Advisory Committee on Homeless Veterans
21	((a)(1) There is established in the Department the
22	Advisory Committee on Homeless Veterans (hereinafter in
23	this section referred to as the 'Committee').

1	"(2) The Committee shall consist of not more than
2	15 members appointed by the Secretary from among the
3	following:
4	"(A) Veterans service organizations.
5	"(B) Advocates of homeless veterans and other
6	homeless individuals.
7	"(C) Community-based providers of services to
8	homeless individuals.
9	"(D) Previously homeless veterans.
10	"(E) State veterans affairs officials.
11	"(F) Experts in the treatment of individuals
12	with mental illness.
13	"(G) Experts in the treatment of substance use
14	disorders.
15	"(H) Experts in the development of permanent
16	housing alternatives for lower income populations.
17	"(I) Experts in vocational rehabilitation.
18	"(J) Such other organizations or groups as the
19	Secretary considers appropriate.
20	"(3) The Committee shall include, as ex officio
21	members—
22	"(A) the Secretary of Labor (or a representa-
23	tive of the Secretary selected after consultation with
24	the Assistant Secretary of Labor for Veterans' Em-
25	ployment);

1	"(B) the Secretary of Defense (or a representa-
2	tive of the Secretary);
3	"(C) the Secretary of Health and Human Serv-
4	ices (or a representative of the Secretary); and
5	"(D) the Secretary of Housing and Urban De-
6	velopment (or a representative of the Secretary).
7	"(4) The Secretary shall determine the terms of serv-
8	ice and pay and allowances of the members of the Com-
9	mittee, except that a term of service may not exceed three
10	years. The Secretary may reappoint any member for addi-
11	tional terms of service.
12	((b)(1) The Secretary shall, on a regular basis, con-
13	sult with and seek the advice of the Committee with re-
14	spect to the provision by the Department of benefits and
15	services to homeless veterans.
16	((2)(A) In providing advice to the Secretary under
17	this subsection, the Committee shall—
18	"(i) assemble and review information relating to
19	the needs of homeless veterans;
20	"(ii) provide an on-going assessment of the ef-
21	fectiveness of the policies, organizational structures,
22	and services of the Department in assisting homeless
23	veterans; and

"(iii) provide on-going advice on the most ap propriate means of providing assistance to homeless
 veterans.

4 "(3) The Committee shall—

5 "(A) review the continuum of services provided 6 by the Department directly or by contract in order 7 to define cross-cutting issues and to improve coordi-8 nation of all services with the Department that are 9 involved in addressing the special needs of homeless 10 veterans;

11 "(B) identify (through the annual assessments 12 under section 2034 of this title and other available 13 resources) gaps in programs of the Department in 14 serving homeless veterans, including identification of 15 geographic areas with unmet needs, and provide rec-16 ommendations to address those program gaps;

"(C) identify gaps in existing information systems on homeless veterans, both within and outside
of the Department, and provide recommendations
about redressing problems in data collection;

"(D) identify barriers under existing laws and
policies to effective coordination by the Department
with other Federal agencies and with State and local
agencies addressing homeless populations;

1	"(E) identify opportunities for increased liaison
2	by the Department with nongovernmental organiza-
3	tions and individual groups addressing homeless
4	populations;
5	"(F) with appropriate officials of the Depart-
6	ment designated by the Secretary, participate with
7	the Interagency Council on the Homeless under title
8	II of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act
9	(42 U.S.C. 11311 et seq.);
10	"(G) recommend appropriate funding levels for
11	specialized programs for homeless veterans provided
12	or funded by the Department;
13	"(H) recommend appropriate placement options
14	for veterans who, because of advanced age, frailty,
15	or severe mental illness, may not be appropriate can-
16	didates for vocational rehabilitation or independent
17	living; and
18	"(I) perform such other functions as the Sec-
19	retary may direct.
20	((c)(1) Not later than March 31 of each year, the
21	Committee shall submit to the Secretary a report on the
22	programs and activities of the Department that relate to
23	homeless veterans. Each such report shall include—
24	"(A) an assessment of the needs of homeless
25	veterans;

"(B) a review of the programs and activities of 1 2 the Department designed to meet such needs; "(C) a review of the activities of the Committee; 3 4 and "(D) such recommendations (including rec-5 6 ommendations for administrative and legislative ac-7 tion) as the Committee considers appropriate. 8 "(2) Not later than 90 days after the receipt of a 9 report under paragraph (1), the Secretary shall transmit to the Committees on Veterans' Affairs of the Senate and 10 House of Representatives a copy of the report, together 11 12 with any comments and recommendations concerning the 13 report that the Secretary considers appropriate. 14 "(3) The Committee may also submit to the Sec-15 retary such other reports and recommendations as the Committee considers appropriate. 16 17 "(4) The Secretary shall submit with each annual report submitted to the Congress pursuant to section 529 18 of this title a summary of all reports and recommendations 19 20 of the Committee submitted to the Secretary since the pre-21 vious annual report of the Secretary submitted pursuant

22 to that section.

23 "(d) The Committee shall cease to exist December24 31, 2006.".

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4 (b) HEALTH CARE.—(1) Subchapter VII of chapter
5 17 is transferred to chapter 20 (as added by subsection
6 (a)), inserted after section 2023 (as so added), and redes7 ignated as subchapter IV, and sections 1771, 1772, 1773,
8 and 1774 therein are redesignated as sections 2031, 2032,
9 2033, and 2034, respectively.

10 (2) Subsection (a)(3) of section 2031, as so trans11 ferred and redesignated, is amended by striking "section
12 1772 of this title" and inserting "section 2032 of this
13 title".

(c) HOUSING ASSISTANCE.—Section 3735 is transferred to chapter 20 (as added by subsection (a)), inserted
after the heading for subchapter V, and redesignated as
section 2041.

(d) MULTIFAMILY TRANSITIONAL HOUSING.—(1)
Subchapter VI of chapter 37 (other than section 3771)
is transferred to chapter 20 (as added by subsection (a))
and inserted after section 2043 (as added by subsection
(a)), and sections 3772, 3773, 3774, and 3775 therein are
redesignated as sections 2051, 2052, 2053, and 2054, respectively.

25 (2) Such subchapter is amended—

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1	(A) in the heading, by striking "FOR HOME-
2	LESS VETERANS";
3	(B) in subsection $(d)(1)$ of section 2051, as so
4	transferred and redesignated, by striking "section
5	3773 of this title" and inserting "section 2052 of
6	this title"; and
7	(C) in subsection (a) of section 2052 , as so
8	transferred and redesignated, by striking "section
9	3772 of this title" and inserting "section 2051 of
10	this title".
11	(3) Section 3771 is repealed.
12	(e) Repeal of Codified Provisions.—The fol-
13	lowing provisions of law are repealed:
14	(1) Sections 3, 4, and 12 of the Homeless Vet-
15	erans Comprehensive Service Programs Act of 1992
16	(Public Law 102–590; 38 U.S.C. 7721 note).
17	(2) Section 1001 of the Veterans' Benefits Im-
18	provements Act of 1994 (Public Law 103–446; 38
19	U.S.C. 7721 note).
20	(3) Section 4111.
21	(4) Section 738 of the McKinney-Vento Home-
22	less Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 11448).
23	(f) EXTENSION OF EXPIRING AUTHORITIES.—Sub-
24	section (b) of section 2031, as redesignated by subsection
25	(b)(1), and subsection (d) of section 2033, as so redesig-

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1	nated, are amended by striking "December 31, 2001" and
2	inserting "December 31, 2006".
3	(g) Clerical Amendments.—
4	(1) The table of sections at the beginning of
5	chapter 17 is amended by striking the item relating
6	to subchapter VII and the items relating to sections
7	1771, 1772, 1773, and 1774.
8	(2) The table of sections at the beginning of
9	chapter 37 is amended—
10	(A) by striking the item relating to section
11	3735; and
12	(B) by striking the item relating to sub-
13	chapter VI and the items relating to sections
14	3771, 3772, 3773, 3774, and 3775.
15	(3) The table of sections at the beginning of
16	chapter 41 is amended by striking the item relating
17	to section 4111.
18	SEC. 6. EVALUATION OF HOMELESS PROGRAMS.
19	(a) EVALUATION CENTERS.—The Secretary of Vet-
20	erans Affairs shall support the continuation within the De-
21	partment of Veterans Affairs of at least one center for
22	evaluation to monitor the structure, process, and outcome
23	of programs of the Department of Veterans Affairs that
24	address homeless veterans.

(b) ANNUAL PROGRAM ASSESSMENT.—Section
 2034(b), as transferred and redesignated by section
 5(b)(1), is amended—

4 (1) by inserting "annual" in paragraph (1)
5 after "to make an"; and

6 (2) by adding at the end the following new7 paragraph:

8 "(6) The Secretary shall review each annual assess-9 ment under this subsection and shall consolidate the find-10 ings and conclusions of those assessments into an annual 11 report to be submitted to Congress.".

12 SEC. 7. STUDY OF OUTCOME EFFECTIVENESS OF GRANT
13 PROGRAM FOR HOMELESS VETERANS WITH
14 SPECIAL NEEDS.

15 (a) STUDY.—The Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall conduct a study of the effectiveness during fiscal year 16 17 2002 through fiscal year 2004 of the grant program under section 2061 of title 38, United States Code, as added by 18 19 section 5(a), in meeting the needs of homeless veterans 20 with special needs (as specified in that section). As part 21 of the study, the Secretary shall compare the results of 22 programs carried out under that section, in terms of vet-23 erans' satisfaction, health status, reduction in addiction 24 severity, housing, and encouragement of productive activ-25 ity, with results for similar veterans in programs of the

Department or of grant and per diem providers that are
 designed to meet the general needs of homeless veterans.
 (b) REPORT.—Not later than March 31, 2005, the
 Secretary shall submit to the Committees on Veterans' Af fairs of the Senate and House of Representatives a report
 setting forth the results of the study under subsection (a).

7 SEC. 8. ADDITIONAL PROGRAMMATIC EXPANSIONS.

8 (a) ACCESS TO MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES.—Sec9 tion 1706 is amended by adding at the end the following
10 new subsection:

11 "(c) The Secretary shall develop standards to ensure 12 that mental health services are available to veterans in a 13 manner similar to the manner in which primary care is 14 available to veterans who require services by ensuring that 15 each primary care health care facility of the Department 16 has a mental health treatment capacity.".

17 (b) COMPREHENSIVE HOMELESS SERVICES PRO18 GRAM.—Subsection (b) of section 2033, as transferred and
19 redesignated by section 5(b)(1), is amended—

20 (1) by striking "not fewer" in the first sentence
21 and all that follows through "services) at"; and

(2) by adding at the end the following new sentence: "The Secretary shall carry out the program
under this section in sites in at least each of the 20
largest metropolitan statistical areas.".

(c) OPIOID SUBSTITUTION THERAPY.—Section
 1720A is amended by adding at the end the following new
 subsection:

4 "(d) The Secretary shall ensure that opioid substi5 tution therapy is available at each Department medical
6 center.".

7 SEC. 9. COORDINATION OF EMPLOYMENT SERVICES.

8 (a) DISABLED VETERANS' OUTREACH PROGRAM.—
9 Section 4103A(c) is amended by adding at the end the
10 following new paragraph:

"(11) Coordination of services provided to veterans with training assistance provided to veterans
by entities receiving financial assistance under section 2021 of this title.".

(b) LOCAL VETERANS' EMPLOYMENT REPRESENTA16 TIVES.—Section 4104(b) is amended by adding at the end
17 the following new paragraph:

18 "(13) Coordinate services provided to veterans
19 with training assistance for veterans provided by en20 titles receiving financial assistance under section
21 2021 of this title.".

22 SEC. 10. USE OF REAL PROPERTY.

(a) LIMITATION ON DECLARING PROPERTY EXCESS
TO THE NEEDS OF THE DEPARTMENT.—Section 8122(d)
is amended by inserting before the period at the end the

following: "and is not suitable for use for the provision
 of services to homeless veterans by the Department or by
 another entity under an enhanced-use lease of such prop erty under section 8162 of this title".

5 (b) WAIVER OF COMPETITIVE SELECTION PROCESS
6 FOR ENHANCED-USE LEASES FOR PROPERTIES USED TO
7 SERVE HOMELESS VETERANS.—Section 8162(b)(1) is
8 amended—

9 (1) by inserting "(A)" after "(b)(1)"; and

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

11 "(B) In the case of a property that the Secretary de-12 termines is appropriate for use as a facility to furnish 13 services to homeless veterans under chapter 20 of this 14 title, the Secretary may enter into an enhanced-use lease 15 without regard to the selection procedures required under 16 subparagraph (A).".

17 (c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by18 subsection (b) shall apply to leases entered into on or after19 the date of the enactment of this Act.

20 SEC. 11. MEETINGS OF INTERAGENCY COUNCIL ON HOME21 LESS.

Section 202(c) of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 11312(c)) is amended to read as
follows:

"(c) MEETINGS.—The Council shall meet at the call
 of its Chairperson or a majority of its members, but not
 less often than annually.".

4 SEC. 12. RENTAL ASSISTANCE VOUCHERS FOR HUD VET5 ERANS AFFAIRS SUPPORTED HOUSING PRO6 GRAM.

7 Section 8(o) of the United States Housing Act of
8 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437f(o)) is amended by adding at the
9 end the following new paragraph:

10 "(19) RENTAL VOUCHERS FOR VETERANS AF11 FAIRS SUPPORTED HOUSING PROGRAM.—

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

1	rental assistance, and shall ensure such treat-
2	ment and appropriate case management for
3	each veteran receiving such rental assistance.
4	"(B) AMOUNT.—The amount specified in
5	this subparagraph is—
6	"(i) for fiscal year 2003, the amount
7	necessary to provide 500 vouchers for rent-
8	al assistance under this subsection;
9	"(ii) for fiscal year 2004, the amount
10	necessary to provide 1,000 vouchers for
11	rental assistance under this subsection;
12	"(iii) for fiscal year 2005, the amount
13	necessary to provide 1,500 vouchers for
14	rental assistance under this subsection;
15	and
16	"(iv) for fiscal year 2006, the amount
17	necessary to provide 2,000 vouchers for
18	rental assistance under this subsection.
19	"(C) FUNDING THROUGH INCREMENTAL
20	ASSISTANCE.—In any fiscal year, to the extent
21	that this paragraph requires the Secretary to
22	set aside rental assistance amounts for use
23	under this paragraph in an amount that ex-
24	ceeds that set aside in the preceding fiscal year,
25	such requirement shall be effective only to such

1	extent or in such amounts as are or have been
2	provided in appropriation Acts for such fiscal
3	year for incremental rental assistance under
4	this subsection.".

Passed the House of Representatives October 16, 2001.

Attest:

JEFF TRANDAHL, *Clerk*.

Calendar No. 201

^{107TH CONGRESS} H.R. 2716

AN ACT

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

OCTOBER 17, 2001 Received; read twice and placed on the calendar