

# Union Calendar No. 145

107<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESS  
1<sup>ST</sup> SESSION

# H. R. 2716

**[Report No. 107-241, Part I]**

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

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## 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

OCTOBER 16, 2001

Additional sponsors: Mr. SIMPSON, Mr. FILNER, Mr. BILIRAKIS, Mr. McKEON, Ms. CARSON of Indiana, Mr. UDALL of New Mexico, Mr. SHOWS, and Mr. SNYDER

OCTOBER 16, 2001

Reported from the Committee on Veterans' Affairs with an amendment

[Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert the part printed in *italic*]

OCTOBER 16, 2001

Referral to the Committee on Financial Services extended for a period ending not later than October 16, 2001

OCTOBER 16, 2001

Committee on Financial Services discharged; committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union and ordered to be printed

# 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 “Stu-*  
 6 *art Collick—Heather French Henry Homeless Veterans As-*  
 7 *sistance Act”.*

8 (b) *TABLE OF CONTENTS.*—*The table of contents of this*  
 9 *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 re-*  
*sponsibility 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.*

10 (c) **REFERENCES TO TITLE 38, UNITED STATES**  
 11 **CODE.**—*Except as otherwise expressly provided, whenever*

1 *in this Act an amendment or repeal is expressed in terms*  
 2 *of an amendment to, or repeal of, a section or other provi-*  
 3 *sion, the reference shall be considered to be made to a section*  
 4 *or other provision of title 38, United States Code.*

5 **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

6 *For purposes of this Act:*

7 (1) *The term “homeless veteran” has the mean-*  
 8 *ing given such term in section 2002 of title 38,*  
 9 *United States Code, as added by section 5(a)(1).*

10 (2) *The term “grant and per diem provider”*  
 11 *means an entity in receipt of a grant under section*  
 12 *2011 or 2012 of title 38, United States Code.*

13 **SEC. 3. NATIONAL GOAL TO END HOMELESSNESS AMONG**  
 14 **VETERANS.**

15 (a) *NATIONAL GOAL.*—Congress hereby declares it to  
 16 *be a national goal to end chronic homelessness among vet-*  
 17 *erans within a decade of the enactment of this Act.*

18 (b) *COOPERATIVE EFFORTS ENCOURAGED.*—Congress  
 19 *hereby encourages all departments and agencies of Federal,*  
 20 *State, and local governments, quasi-governmental organiza-*  
 21 *tions, private and public sector entities, including commu-*  
 22 *nity-based organizations, faith-based organizations, and in-*  
 23 *dividuals to work cooperatively to end chronic homelessness*  
 24 *among veterans within a decade.*

1 **SEC. 4. SENSE OF THE CONGRESS REGARDING THE NEEDS**  
2 **OF HOMELESS VETERANS AND THE RESPON-**  
3 **SIBILITY OF FEDERAL AGENCIES.**

4 *It is the sense of the Congress that—*

5 *(1) homelessness is a significant problem in the*  
6 *veterans community and veterans are disproportion-*  
7 *ately represented among homeless men;*

8 *(2) While many effective programs assist home-*  
9 *less veterans to again become productive and self-suf-*  
10 *ficient members of society, current resources provided*  
11 *to such programs and other activities that assist*  
12 *homeless veterans are inadequate to provide all needed*  
13 *essential services, assistance, and support to homeless*  
14 *veterans;*

15 *(3) the most effective programs for the assistance*  
16 *of homeless veterans should be identified and ex-*  
17 *panded;*

18 *(4) federally funded programs for homeless vet-*  
19 *erans should be held accountable for achieving clearly*  
20 *defined results;*

21 *(5) Federal efforts to assist homeless veterans*  
22 *should include prevention of homelessness; and*

23 *(6) Federal agencies, particularly the Depart-*  
24 *ment of Veterans Affairs and the Department of*  
25 *Housing and Urban Development, should cooperate*

3 **SEC. 5. CONSOLIDATION AND IMPROVEMENT OF PROVI-**  
4 **SIONS OF LAW RELATING TO HOMELESS VET-**  
5 **ERANS.**

6           (a) *IN GENERAL.*—(1) *Part II is amended by inserting*  
7 *after chapter 19 the following new chapter:*

8 ***“CHAPTER 20—BENEFITS FOR HOMELESS***  
9 ***VETERANS***

“Sec.

“2001. *Purpose.*

“2002. *Definitions.*

“2003. *Staffing requirements.*

“2004. *Employment assistance.*

“2011. *Grants.*

“2012. *Per diem* payments.

“2013. *Authorization of appropriations.*

“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.*”

“2031. *General treatment.*

“2032. *Therapeutic housing.*

“2033. *Additional services at certain locations.*

“2034. *Coordination with other agencies and organizations.*

“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.*

1 “SUBCHAPTER I—PURPOSE; DEFINITIONS;

2 ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

3 “§ 2001. **Purpose**

4 “The purpose of this chapter is to provide for the spe-  
5 cial needs of homeless veterans.

6 “§ 2002. **Definitions**

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 per  
18 diem shelters and transitional housing for  
19 the mentally ill);

1                   “(ii) an institution that provides a  
2                   temporary residence for individuals in-  
3                   tended to be institutionalized; or

4                   “(iii) a public or private place not de-  
5                   signed for, or ordinarily used as, a regular  
6                   sleeping accommodation for human beings.

7                   “(2) The term ‘grant and per diem provider’  
8                   means an entity in receipt of a grant under section  
9                   2011 or 2012 of this title.

10   **“§ 2003. Staffing requirements**

11                   “(a) VBA STAFFING AT REGIONAL OFFICES.—The  
12                   Secretary shall ensure that there is assigned at each Vet-  
13                   erans Benefits Administration regional office at least one  
14                   employee assigned specifically to oversee and coordinate  
15                   homeless veterans programs in that region. In any such re-  
16                   gional office with at least 140 employees, there shall be at  
17                   least one full-time employee assigned to such functions. The  
18                   programs covered by such oversight and coordination in-  
19                   clude the following:

20                   “(1) The housing program for veterans supported  
21                   by the Department of Housing and Urban Develop-  
22                   ment.

23                   “(2) Housing programs supported by the Sec-  
24                   retary under this title or any other provision of law.

1           “(3) *The homeless veterans reintegration pro-*  
2           *gram of the Department of Labor under section 2021*  
3           *of this title.*

4           “(4) *The programs under section 2033 of this*  
5           *title.*

6           “(5) *The assessments required by section 2034 of*  
7           *this title.*

8           “(6) *Such other duties relating to homeless vet-*  
9           *erans as may be assigned.*

10          “(b) *VHA CASE MANAGERS.—The Secretary shall en-*  
11          *sure that the number of case managers in the Veterans*  
12          *Health Administration is sufficient to assure that every vet-*  
13          *eran who is provided a housing voucher through section 8(o)*  
14          *of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C.*  
15          *1437f(o)) is assigned to, and is able to be seen as needed*  
16          *by, a case manager.*

17          **“§ 2004. *Employment assistance***

18          *“The Secretary may authorize homeless veterans re-*  
19          *ceiving care through vocational rehabilitation programs to*  
20          *participate in the compensated work therapy program*  
21          *under section 1718 of this title.*



4           “(a) *AUTHORITY TO MAKE GRANTS.*—(1) *Subject to*  
5 *the availability of appropriations provided for such pur-*  
6 *pose, the Secretary shall make grants to assist eligible enti-*  
7 *ties in establishing programs to furnish, and expanding or*  
8 *modifying existing programs for furnishing, the following*  
9 *to homeless veterans:*

13 “(D) *Transitional housing assistance.*

16       “(b) *CRITERIA FOR AWARD OF GRANTS.*—The Sec-  
17       retary shall establish criteria and requirements for the  
18       award of a grant under this section, including criteria for  
19       entities eligible to receive such grants, and shall publish  
20       such criteria and requirements in the Federal Register. The  
21       criteria established under this section shall include the fol-  
22       lowing:

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1           “(A) expansion, remodeling, or alteration of  
2           existing buildings, or acquisition of facilities, for  
3           use as service centers, transitional housing, or  
4           other facilities to serve homeless veterans; and

5           “(B) procurement of vans for use in out-  
6           reach to, and transportation for, homeless vet-  
7           erans to carry out the purposes set forth in sub-  
8           section (a).

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

11          “(3) Appropriate criteria for the staffing for the  
12          provision of the services for which a grant under this  
13          section is furnished.

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

16               “(A) shall not result in duplication of ongo-  
17               ing services; and

18               “(B) to the maximum extent practicable,  
19               shall reflect appropriate geographic dispersion  
20               and an appropriate balance between urban and  
21               nonurban locations.

22          “(5) Provisions to ensure that an entity receiv-  
23          ing a grant shall meet fire and safety requirements  
24          established by the Secretary, which shall include—

1           “(A) such State and community require-  
2           ments that may apply; and

3           “(B) the fire and safety requirements appli-  
4           cable under the Life Safety Code of the National  
5           Fire Protection Association.

6           “(6) Specifications as to the means by which an  
7           entity receiving a grant may contribute in-kind serv-  
8           ices to the start-up costs of any project for which sup-  
9           port is sought and the methodology for assigning a  
10          cost to that contribution for purposes of subsection  
11          (c).

12          “(c) *FUNDING LIMITATIONS.*—A grant under this sec-  
13          tion may not be used to support operational costs. The  
14          amount of a grant under this section may not exceed 65  
15          percent of the estimated cost of the expansion, remodeling,  
16          alteration, acquisition, or procurement provided for under  
17          this section.

18          “(d) *ELIGIBLE ENTITIES.*—The Secretary may make  
19          a grant under this section to an entity applying for such  
20          a grant only if the applicant for the grant—

21                 “(1) is a public or nonprofit private entity with  
22                 the capacity (as determined by the Secretary) to effec-  
23                 tively administer a grant under this section;

24                 “(2) has demonstrated that adequate financial  
25                 support will be available to carry out the project for

1       *which the grant has been sought consistent with the*  
2       *plans, specifications, and schedule submitted by the*  
3       *applicant; and*

4               “(3) *has agreed to meet the applicable criteria*  
5       *and requirements established under subsections (b)*  
6       *and (g) (and the Secretary has determined that the*  
7       *applicant has demonstrated the capacity to meet those*  
8       *criteria and requirements).*

9       “(e) *APPLICATION REQUIREMENT.—An entity de-*  
10       *scribed in subsection (d) desiring to receive assistance under*  
11       *this section shall submit to the Secretary an application.*  
12       *The application shall set forth the following:*

13               “(1) *The amount of the grant requested with re-*  
14       *spect to a project.*

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

16               “(3) *Plans, specifications, and the schedule for*  
17       *implementation of such project in accordance with re-*  
18       *quirements prescribed by the Secretary under sub-*  
19       *section (b).*

20               “(4) *Reasonable assurance that upon completion*  
21       *of the work for which assistance is sought, the pro-*  
22       *gram will become operational and the facilities will*  
23       *be used principally to provide to veterans the services*  
24       *for which the project was designed, and that not more*

1        *than 25 percent of the services provided will serve cli-*  
2        *ents who are not receiving such services as veterans.*

3        *“(f) PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS.—The Secretary may*  
4        *not make a grant to an applicant under this section unless*  
5        *the applicant, in the application for the grant, agrees to*  
6        *each of the following requirements:*

7                *“(1) To provide the services for which the grant*  
8                *is furnished at locations accessible to homeless vet-*  
9                *erans.*

10               *“(2) To maintain referral networks for, and aid*  
11               *homeless veterans in, establishing eligibility for assist-*  
12               *ance, and obtaining services, under available entitle-*  
13               *ment and assistance programs.*

14               *“(3) To ensure the confidentiality of records*  
15               *maintained on homeless veterans receiving services*  
16               *under the grant.*

17               *“(4) To establish such procedures for fiscal con-*  
18               *trol and fund accounting as may be necessary to en-*  
19               *sure proper disbursement and accounting with respect*  
20               *to the grant and to such payments as may be made*  
21               *under section 2012 of this title.*

22               *“(5) To seek to employ homeless veterans and*  
23               *formerly homeless veterans in positions created for*  
24               *purposes of the grant for which those veterans are*  
25               *qualified.*

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

5               “(1) *That such center provide services to home-*  
6 *less veterans during such hours as the Secretary may*  
7 *specify and be open to such veterans on an as-needed,*  
8 *unscheduled basis.*

9               “(2) *That space at such center will be made*  
10 *available, as mutually agreeable, for use by staff of*  
11 *the Department of Veterans Affairs, the Department*  
12 *of Labor, and other appropriate agencies and organi-*  
13 *zations in assisting homeless veterans served by such*  
14 *center.*

15               “(3) *That such center be equipped and staffed to*  
16 *provide, or to assist in providing, health care, mental*  
17 *health services, hygiene facilities, benefits and employ-*  
18 *ment counseling, meals, transportation assistance,*  
19 *and such other services as the Secretary determines*  
20 *necessary.*

21               “(4) *That such center may be equipped and*  
22 *staffed to provide, or to assist in providing, job train-*  
23 *ing and job placement services (including job readi-*  
24 *ness, job counseling, and literacy and skills training),*  
25 *as well as any outreach and case management serv-*

1        *ices that may be necessary to carry out this para-*  
 2        *graph.*

3        *“(h) RECOVERY OF UNUSED GRANT FUNDS.—(1) If a*  
 4        *grant recipient (or entity eligible for such a grant) under*  
 5        *this section does not establish a program in accordance with*  
 6        *this section or ceases to furnish services under such a pro-*  
 7        *gram for which the grant was made, the United States shall*  
 8        *be entitled to recover from such recipient or entity the total*  
 9        *of all unused grant amounts made under this section to such*  
 10       *recipient or entity in connection with such program.*

11       *“(2) Any amount recovered by the United States under*  
 12       *paragraph (1) may be obligated by the Secretary without*  
 13       *fiscal year limitation to carry out provisions of this sub-*  
 14       *chapter.*

15       *“(3) An amount may not be recovered under para-*  
 16       *graph (1) as an unused grant amount before the end of the*  
 17       *three-year period beginning on the date on which the grant*  
 18       *is awarded.*

19       **“§2012. *Per diem payments***

20       *“(a) PER DIEM PAYMENTS FOR FURNISHING SERV-*  
 21       *ICES TO HOMELESS VETERANS.—(1) Subject to the avail-*  
 22       *ability of appropriations provided for such purpose, the*  
 23       *Secretary, pursuant to such criteria as the Secretary shall*  
 24       *prescribe, shall provide to a recipient of a grant under sec-*  
 25       *tion 2011 of this title (or an entity eligible to receive a*

1 *grant under that section which after November 10, 1992,*  
 2 *establishes a program that the Secretary determines carries*  
 3 *out the purposes described in that section) per diem pay-*  
 4 *ments for services furnished to any homeless veteran—*

5           “(A) *whom the Secretary has referred to the*  
 6           *grant recipient (or entity eligible for such a grant);*  
 7           *or*

8           “(B) *for whom the Secretary has authorized the*  
 9           *provision of services.*

10          “(2) *The rate for such per diem payments shall be the*  
 11 *rate authorized for State homes for domiciliary care under*  
 12 *section 1741(a)(1)(A) of this title.*

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

18          “(b) *INSPECTIONS.—The Secretary may inspect any*  
 19 *facility of an entity eligible for payments under subsection*  
 20 *(a) at such times as the Secretary considers necessary. No*  
 21 *per diem payment may be made to an entity under this*  
 22 *section unless the facilities of that entity meet such stand-*  
 23 *ards as the Secretary shall prescribe.*

24          “(c) *LIFE SAFETY CODE.—(1) Except as provided in*  
 25 *paragraph (2), a per diem payment may not be provided*



1 *under this section to a grant recipient unless the facilities*  
 2 *of the grant recipient meet the fire and safety requirements*  
 3 *applicable under the Life Safety Code of the National Fire*  
 4 *Protection Association.*

5       “(2) *During the five-year period beginning on the date*  
 6 *of the enactment of this section, paragraph (1) shall not*  
 7 *apply to an entity that received a grant under section 3*  
 8 *of the Homeless Veterans Comprehensive Service Programs*  
 9 *Act of 1992 (Public Law 102–590; 38 U.S.C. 7721 note)*  
 10 *before that date if the entity meets fire and safety require-*  
 11 *ments established by the Secretary.*

12       “(3) *From amounts available for purposes of this sec-*  
 13 *tion, not less than \$5,000,000 shall be used only for grants*  
 14 *to assist entities covered by paragraph (2) in meeting the*  
 15 *Life Safety Code of the National Fire Protection Associa-*  
 16 *tion.*

17 **“§ 2013. Authorization of appropriations**

18       *“There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out*  
 19 *this subchapter amounts as follows:*

20               “(1) *\$60,000,000 for fiscal year 2002.*

21               “(2) *\$75,000,000 for fiscal year 2003.*

22               “(3) *\$75,000,000 for fiscal year 2004.*

23               “(4) *\$75,000,000 for fiscal year 2005.*

1     “SUBCHAPTER III—TRAINING AND OUTREACH

2     “§ 2021. *Homeless veterans’ reintegration programs*

3             “(a) *IN GENERAL.*—Subject to the availability of ap-  
 4     propriations provided for under subsection (d) and made  
 5     available for such purpose, the Secretary of Labor shall con-  
 6     duct, directly or through grant or contract, such programs  
 7     as the Secretary determines appropriate to provide job  
 8     training, counseling, and placement services to expedite the  
 9     reintegration of homeless veterans into the labor force.

10            “(b) *REQUIREMENT TO MONITOR EXPENDITURES OF*  
 11     *FUNDS.*—(1) The Secretary of Labor shall collect such in-  
 12     formation as the Secretary considers appropriate to mon-  
 13     itor and evaluate the distribution and expenditure of funds  
 14     appropriated to carry out this section. The information  
 15     shall include data with respect to the results or outcomes  
 16     of the services provided to each homeless veteran under this  
 17     section.

18            “(2) The information under paragraph (1) shall be  
 19     furnished to the Secretary of Labor in such form as the Sec-  
 20     retary considers appropriate.

21            “(c) *ADMINISTRATION THROUGH THE ASSISTANT SEC-*  
 22     *RETARY OF LABOR FOR VETERANS’ EMPLOYMENT AND*  
 23     *TRAINING.*—The Secretary of Labor shall carry out this sec-  
 24     tion through the Assistant Secretary of Labor for Veterans’  
 25     Employment and Training.

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

6       “(e) *AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.*—(1) *There*  
 7       *are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section*  
 8       *amounts as follows:*

9               “(A) \$50,000,000 for fiscal year 2002.

10              “(B) \$50,000,000 for fiscal year 2003.

11              “(C) \$50,000,000 for fiscal year 2004.

12              “(D) \$50,000,000 for fiscal year 2005.

13              “(E) \$50,000,000 for fiscal year 2006.

14       “(2) *Funds appropriated to carry out this section shall*  
 15       *remain available until expended. Funds obligated in any*  
 16       *fiscal year to carry out this section may be expended in*  
 17       *that fiscal year and the succeeding fiscal year.*

18       **“§ 2022. Coordination of outreach services for vet-**  
 19               **erans at risk of homelessness**

20       “(a) *OUTREACH PLAN.*—*The Secretary, acting through*  
 21       *the Under Secretary for Health, shall provide for appro-*  
 22       *priate officials of the Mental Health Service and the Read-*  
 23       *justment Counseling Service of the Veterans Health Admin-*  
 24       *istration to initiate a coordinated plan for joint outreach*  
 25       *to veterans at risk of homelessness, including particularly*

1 *veterans who are being discharged from institutions (in-*  
2 *cluding discharges from inpatient psychiatric care, sub-*  
3 *stance abuse treatment programs, and penal institutions).*

4 “(b) *MATTERS TO BE INCLUDED.*—*The outreach plan*  
5 *under subsection (a) shall include the following:*

6 “(1) *Strategies to identify and collaborate with*  
7 *external entities used by veterans who have not tradi-*  
8 *tionally used Department services to further outreach*  
9 *efforts.*

10 “(2) *Strategies to ensure that mentoring pro-*  
11 *grams, recovery support groups, and other appro-*  
12 *priate support networks are optimally available to*  
13 *veterans.*

14 “(3) *Appropriate programs or referrals to family*  
15 *support programs.*

16 “(4) *Means to increase access to case manage-*  
17 *ment services.*

18 “(5) *Plans for making additional employment*  
19 *services accessible to veterans.*

20 “(6) *Appropriate referral sources for mental*  
21 *health and substance abuse services.*

22 “(c) *COOPERATIVE RELATIONSHIPS.*—*The plan shall*  
23 *identify strategies for the Department to enter into formal*  
24 *cooperative relationships with entities outside the Depart-*

1 *ment to facilitate making services and resources optimally*  
2 *available to veterans.*

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

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

10 “(A) *provision of information about benefits*  
11 *available to eligible veterans from the Department;*  
12 *and*

13 “(B) *contact information for local Department*  
14 *facilities, including medical facilities, regional offices,*  
15 *and veterans centers.*

16 “(2) *In developing and carrying out the program*  
17 *under paragraph (1), the Secretary shall, to the extent prac-*  
18 *ticable, consult with appropriate public and private organi-*  
19 *zations, including the Bureau of Prisons, State social serv-*  
20 *ice agencies, the Department of Defense, and mental health,*  
21 *veterans, and homeless advocates—*

22 “(A) *for assistance in identifying and contacting*  
23 *veterans who are homeless or at risk of homelessness;*

24 “(B) *to coordinate appropriate outreach activi-*  
25 *ties with those organizations; and*

1           “(C) to coordinate services provided to veterans  
2           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 Sec-  
5           retary shall submit to the Committees on Veterans’ Affairs  
6           of the Senate and House of Representatives a report on the  
7           Secretary’s plan under subsection (a), including goals and  
8           time lines for implementation of the plan for particular fa-  
9           cilities and service networks.

10          **“§ 2023. Demonstration program relating to referral**  
11                               **and counseling for veterans transitioning**  
12                               **from certain institutions who are at risk**  
13                               **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 such  
20           veterans under this title and under State law.

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

1       “(c) *SCOPE OF PROGRAM.*—(1) *To the extent prac-*  
2 *ticable, the demonstration program shall provide both refer-*  
3 *ral and counseling, and in the case of counseling, shall in-*  
4 *clude counseling with respect to job training and placement,*  
5 *housing, health care, and such other benefits to assist the*  
6 *eligible veteran in the transition from institutional living.*

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

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

18       “(3) *The Secretaries may enter into contracts to carry*  
19 *out the counseling required under the demonstration pro-*  
20 *gram with entities or organizations that meet such require-*  
21 *ments as the Secretaries may establish.*

22       “(4) *In developing the demonstration program, the*  
23 *Secretaries shall consult with officials of the Bureau of Pris-*  
24 *ons, officials of penal institutions of States and political*

1 *subdivisions of States, and such other officials as the Secre-*  
 2 *taries determine appropriate.*

3       “(d) *REPORT.—(1) Not later than two years after the*  
 4 *commencement of the demonstration program, the Secretary*  
 5 *(after consultation with the Secretary of Labor) shall sub-*  
 6 *mit to the Committees on Veterans’ Affairs of the Senate*  
 7 *and the House of Representatives a report on the program.*

8       “(2) *The report under paragraph (1) shall include the*  
 9 *following:*

10           “(A) *A description of the implementation and*  
 11 *operation of the program.*

12           “(B) *An evaluation of the effectiveness of the pro-*  
 13 *gram.*

14           “(C) *Recommendations, if any, regarding an ex-*  
 15 *tension of the program.*

16       “(e) *DURATION.—The authority of the Secretaries to*  
 17 *provide counseling services under the demonstration pro-*  
 18 *gram shall cease on the date that is four years after the*  
 19 *date of the commencement of the demonstration program.*

20       “(f) *DEFINITIONS.—In this section:*

21           “(1) *The term ‘eligible veteran’ means a veteran*  
 22 *who—*

23           “(A) *is a resident of a penal institution or*  
 24 *an institution that provides long-term care for*  
 25 *mental illness;*



1           “(B) is expected to be imminently released  
2           or discharged (as the case may be) from the facil-  
3           ity or institution; and

4           “(C) is at risk for homelessness absent refer-  
5           ral and counseling services provided under the  
6           program (as determined under guidelines estab-  
7           lished by the Secretaries).

8           “(2) The term ‘imminent’ means, with respect to  
9           a release or discharge under paragraph (1)(B), the  
10          60-day period that ends on the date of such release or  
11          discharge.

12          “SUBCHAPTER V—HOUSING ASSISTANCE

13      **“§ 2042. Supported housing for veterans participating**  
14              **in compensated work therapies**

15          “The Secretary may authorize homeless veterans in the  
16          compensated work therapy program to be provided housing  
17          through the therapeutic residence program under section  
18          2032 of title or through grant and per diem providers under  
19          subchapter II of this chapter.

20      **“§ 2043. Domiciliary care programs**

21          “(a) *AUTHORITY.*—The Secretary may establish up to  
22          10 programs under section 1710(b) of this title (in addition  
23          to any such program that is established as of the date of  
24          the enactment of this section) to provide domiciliary serv-  
25          ices under such section to homeless veterans.

1       “(b) *AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.*—*There*  
 2 *are authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary*  
 3 *\$5,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2003 and 2004 to estab-*  
 4 *lish the programs referred to in subsection (a).*

5       “*SUBCHAPTER VII—OTHER PROVISIONS*

6       “**§2061. Grant program for homeless veterans with**  
 7               ***special needs***

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

14       “(b) *SPECIAL NEEDS.*—*For purposes of this section,*  
 15 *homeless veterans with special needs include homeless vet-*  
 16 *erans who—*

17               “(1) *are women;*

18               “(2) *are 50 years of age or older;*

19               “(3) *are substance abusers;*

20               “(4) *are persons with post-traumatic stress dis-*  
 21 *order;*

22               “(5) *are terminally ill;*

23               “(6) *are chronically mentally ill; or*

24               “(7) *have care of minor dependents or other fam-*  
 25 *ily members.*

1       “(c) *FUNDING.*—(1) *From amounts appropriated to*  
 2 *the Department for ‘Medical Care’ for each of fiscal years*  
 3 *2003, 2004, and 2005, the amount of \$10,000,000 shall be*  
 4 *available for the purposes of the program under this section.*

5       “(2) *The Secretary shall ensure that funds for grants*  
 6 *under this section are designated for the first three years*  
 7 *of operation of the program under this section as a special*  
 8 *purpose program for which funds are not allocated through*  
 9 *the Veterans Equitable Resource Allocation system.*

10   **“§ 2062. Dental care**

11       “(a) *IN GENERAL.*—*For purposes of section*  
 12 *1712(a)(1)(H) of this title, outpatient dental services and*  
 13 *treatment of a dental condition or disability of a veteran*  
 14 *described in subsection (b) shall be considered to be medi-*  
 15 *cally necessary, subject to subsection (c), if—*

16               “(1) *the dental services and treatment are nec-*  
 17 *essary for the veteran to successfully gain or regain*  
 18 *employment;*

19               “(2) *the dental services and treatment are nec-*  
 20 *essary to alleviate pain; or*

21               “(3) *the dental services and treatment are nec-*  
 22 *essary for treatment of moderate, severe, or severe and*  
 23 *complicated gingival and periodontal pathology.*

24       “(b) *ELIGIBLE VETERANS.*—*Subsection (a) applies to*  
 25 *a veteran who is—*

1           “(1) enrolled for care under section 1705(a) of  
2       *this title; and*

3           “(2) who is receiving care (directly or by con-  
4       *tract) in any of the following settings:*

5                   “(A) A domiciliary under section 1710 of  
6       *this title.*

7                   “(B) A therapeutic residence under section  
8       2032 of *this title.*

9                   “(C) Community residential care coordi-  
10       *nated by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs under*  
11       *section 1730 of this title.*

12                   “(D) A setting for which the Secretary pro-  
13       *vides funds for a grant and per diem provider.*

14       “(c) *LIMITATION.—Dental benefits provided by reason*  
15       *of this section shall be a one-time course of dental care pro-*  
16       *vided in the same manner as the dental benefits provided*  
17       *to a newly discharged veteran.*

18       **“§2063. Technical assistance grants for nonprofit**  
19                   ***community-based groups***

20           “(a) *GRANT PROGRAM.—The Secretary shall carry out*  
21       *a program to make technical assistance grants to nonprofit*  
22       *community-based groups with experience in providing as-*  
23       *sistance to homeless veterans in order to assist such groups*  
24       *in applying for grants under this chapter and other grants*  
25       *relating to addressing problems of homeless veterans.*

1       “(b) *FUNDING.*—*There is authorized to be appro-*  
 2       *priated to the Secretary the amount of \$750,000 for each*  
 3       *of fiscal years 2002 through 2005 to carry out the program*  
 4       *under this section.*

5       **“§ 2064. Annual report on assistance to homeless vet-**  
 6                               **erans**

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

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

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

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

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

24               “(4) *The Secretary’s evaluation of the effective-*  
 25       *ness of the programs of the Department (including*

1       *residential work-therapy programs, programs com-*  
2       *bining outreach, community-based residential treat-*  
3       *ment, and case-management, and contract care pro-*  
4       *grams for alcohol and drug-dependence or use disabil-*  
5       *ities) in providing assistance to homeless veterans.*

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              “(c) *HEALTH CARE CONTENTS OF REPORT.—Each re-*  
14       *port under subsection (a) shall include the following with*  
15       *respect to programs of the Department addressing health*  
16       *care needs of homeless veterans:*

17              “(1) *Information about expenditures, costs, and*  
18       *workload under the program of the Department*  
19       *known as the Health Care for Homeless Veterans pro-*  
20       *gram (HCHV).*

21              “(2) *Information about the veterans contacted*  
22       *through that program.*

23              “(3) *Information about processes under that pro-*  
24       *gram.*

1           “(4) *Information about program treatment out-*  
2           *comes under that program.*

3           “(5) *Information about supported housing pro-*  
4           *grams.*

5           “(6) *Information about the Department’s grant*  
6           *and per diem provider program under subchapter II*  
7           *of this chapter.*

8           “(7) *Other information the Secretary considers*  
9           *relevant in assessing the program.*

10   **“§ 2065. Advisory Committee on Homeless Veterans**

11           “(a)(1) *There is established in the Department the Ad-*  
12           *visory Committee on Homeless Veterans (hereinafter in this*  
13           *section referred to as the ‘Committee’).*

14           “(2) *The Committee shall consist of not more than 15*  
15           *members appointed by the Secretary from among the fol-*  
16           *lowing:*

17           “(A) *Veterans service organizations.*

18           “(B) *Advocates of homeless veterans and other*  
19           *homeless individuals.*

20           “(C) *Community-based providers of services to*  
21           *homeless individuals.*

22           “(D) *Previously homeless veterans.*

23           “(E) *State veterans affairs officials.*

24           “(F) *Experts in the treatment of individuals*  
25           *with mental illness.*

1           “(G) *Experts in the treatment of substance use*  
2           *disorders.*

3           “(H) *Experts in the development of permanent*  
4           *housing alternatives for lower income populations.*

5           “(I) *Experts in vocational rehabilitation.*

6           “(J) *Such other organizations or groups as the*  
7           *Secretary considers appropriate.*

8           “(3) *The Committee shall include, as ex officio*  
9           *members—*

10           “(A) *the Secretary of Labor (or a representative*  
11           *of the Secretary selected after consultation with the*  
12           *Assistant Secretary of Labor for Veterans’ Employ-*  
13           *ment);*

14           “(B) *the Secretary of Defense (or a representa-*  
15           *tive of the Secretary);*

16           “(C) *the Secretary of Health and Human Serv-*  
17           *ices (or a representative of the Secretary); and*

18           “(D) *the Secretary of Housing and Urban Devel-*  
19           *opment (or a representative of the Secretary).*

20           “(4) *The Secretary shall determine the terms of service*  
21           *and pay and allowances of the members of the Committee,*  
22           *except that a term of service may not exceed three years.*  
23           *The Secretary may reappoint any member for additional*  
24           *terms of service.*



1       “(b)(1) *The Secretary shall, on a regular basis, consult*  
2 *with and seek the advice of the Committee with respect to*  
3 *the provision by the Department of benefits and services to*  
4 *homeless veterans.*

5       “(2)(A) *In providing advice to the Secretary under*  
6 *this subsection, the Committee shall—*

7               “(i) *assemble and review information relating to*  
8 *the needs of homeless veterans;*

9               “(ii) *provide an on-going assessment of the effec-*  
10 *tiveness of the policies, organizational structures, and*  
11 *services of the Department in assisting homeless vet-*  
12 *erans; and*

13              “(iii) *provide on-going advice on the most ap-*  
14 *propriate means of providing assistance to homeless*  
15 *veterans.*

16       “(3) *The Committee shall—*

17              “(A) *review the continuum of services provided*  
18 *by the Department directly or by contract in order to*  
19 *define cross-cutting issues and to improve coordina-*  
20 *tion of all services with the Department that are in-*  
21 *volved in addressing the special needs of homeless vet-*  
22 *erans;*

23              “(B) *identify (through the annual assessments*  
24 *under section 2034 of this title and other available re-*  
25 *sources) gaps in programs of the Department in serv-*

1     *ing homeless veterans, including identification of geo-*  
2     *graphic areas with unmet needs, and provide rec-*  
3     *ommendations to address those program gaps;*

4             *“(C) identify gaps in existing information sys-*  
5     *tems on homeless veterans, both within and outside of*  
6     *the Department, and provide recommendations about*  
7     *redressing problems in data collection;*

8             *“(D) identify barriers under existing laws and*  
9     *policies to effective coordination by the Department*  
10    *with other Federal agencies and with State and local*  
11    *agencies addressing homeless populations;*

12            *“(E) identify opportunities for increased liaison*  
13    *by the Department with nongovernmental organiza-*  
14    *tions and individual groups addressing homeless pop-*  
15    *ulations;*

16            *“(F) with appropriate officials of the Depart-*  
17    *ment designated by the Secretary, participate with*  
18    *the Interagency Council on the Homeless under title*  
19    *II of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act*  
20    *(42 U.S.C. 11311 et seq.);*

21            *“(G) recommend appropriate funding levels for*  
22    *specialized programs for homeless veterans provided*  
23    *or funded by the Department;*

24            *“(H) recommend appropriate placement options*  
25    *for veterans who, because of advanced age, frailty, or*

1        *severe mental illness, may not be appropriate can-*  
2        *didates for vocational rehabilitation or independent*  
3        *living; and*

4                *“(I) perform such other functions as the Sec-*  
5        *retary may direct.*

6        *“(c)(1) Not later than March 31 of each year, the Com-*  
7        *mittee shall submit to the Secretary a report on the pro-*  
8        *grams and activities of the Department that relate to home-*  
9        *less veterans. Each such report shall include—*

10               *“(A) an assessment of the needs of homeless vet-*  
11        *erans;*

12               *“(B) a review of the programs and activities of*  
13        *the Department designed to meet such needs;*

14               *“(C) a review of the activities of the Committee;*  
15        *and*

16               *“(D) such recommendations (including rec-*  
17        *ommendations for administrative and legislative ac-*  
18        *tion) as the Committee considers appropriate.*

19        *“(2) Not later than 90 days after the receipt of a report*  
20        *under paragraph (1), the Secretary shall transmit to the*  
21        *Committees on Veterans’ Affairs of the Senate and House*  
22        *of Representatives a copy of the report, together with any*  
23        *comments and recommendations concerning the report that*  
24        *the Secretary considers appropriate.*

1       “(3) *The Committee may also submit to the Secretary*  
 2 *such other reports and recommendations as the Committee*  
 3 *considers appropriate.*

4       “(4) *The Secretary shall submit with each annual re-*  
 5 *port submitted to the Congress pursuant to section 529 of*  
 6 *this title a summary of all reports and recommendations*  
 7 *of the Committee submitted to the Secretary since the pre-*  
 8 *vious annual report of the Secretary submitted pursuant*  
 9 *to that section.*

10       “(d) *The Committee shall cease to exist December 31,*  
 11 *2006.”.*

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

      “20. *Benefits for Homeless Veterans* ..... 2001”.

15       (b) *HEALTH CARE.*—(1) *Subchapter VII of chapter 17*  
 16 *is transferred to chapter 20 (as added by subsection (a)),*  
 17 *inserted after section 2023 (as so added), and redesignated*  
 18 *as subchapter IV, and sections 1771, 1772, 1773, and 1774*  
 19 *therein are redesignated as sections 2031, 2032, 2033, and*  
 20 *2034, respectively.*

21       (2) *Subsection (a)(3) of section 2031, as so transferred*  
 22 *and redesignated, is amended by striking “section 1772 of*  
 23 *this title” and inserting “section 2032 of this title”.*

24       (c) *HOUSING ASSISTANCE.*—*Section 3735 is trans-*  
 25 *ferred to chapter 20 (as added by subsection (a)), inserted*

1 *after the heading for subchapter V, and redesignated as sec-*  
 2 *tion 2041.*

3       (d) *MULTIFAMILY TRANSITIONAL HOUSING.*—(1) *Sub-*  
 4 *chapter VI of chapter 37 (other than section 3771) is trans-*  
 5 *ferred to chapter 20 (as added by subsection (a)) and in-*  
 6 *serted after section 2043 (as added by subsection (a)), and*  
 7 *sections 3772, 3773, 3774, and 3775 therein are redesi-*  
 8 *gnated as sections 2051, 2052, 2053, and 2054, respectively.*

9       (2) *Such subchapter is amended—*

10           (A) *in the heading, by striking “FOR HOME-*  
 11 *LESS VETERANS”;*

12           (B) *in subsection (d)(1) of section 2051, as so*  
 13 *transferred and redesignated, by striking “section*  
 14 *3773 of this title” and inserting “section 2052 of this*  
 15 *title”; and*

16           (C) *in subsection (a) of section 2052, as so trans-*  
 17 *ferred and redesignated, by striking “section 3772 of*  
 18 *this title” and inserting “section 2051 of this title”.*

19       (3) *Section 3771 is repealed.*

20       (e) *REPEAL OF CODIFIED PROVISIONS.*—*The following*  
 21 *provisions of law are repealed:*

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

1           (2) *Section 1001 of the Veterans' Benefits Im-*  
 2           *provements Act of 1994 (Public Law 103–446; 38*  
 3           *U.S.C. 7721 note).*

4           (3) *Section 4111.*

5           (4) *Section 738 of the McKinney-Vento Homeless*  
 6           *Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 11448).*

7           (f) *EXTENSION OF EXPIRING AUTHORITIES.—Sub-*  
 8           *section (b) of section 2031, as redesignated by subsection*  
 9           *(b)(1), and subsection (d) of section 2033, as so redesign-*  
 10          *ated, are amended by striking “December 31, 2001” and*  
 11          *inserting “December 31, 2006”.*

12          (g) *CLERICAL AMENDMENTS.—*

13           (1) *The table of sections at the beginning of*  
 14           *chapter 17 is amended by striking the item relating*  
 15           *to subchapter VII and the items relating to sections*  
 16           *1771, 1772, 1773, and 1774.*

17           (2) *The table of sections at the beginning of*  
 18           *chapter 37 is amended—*

19                   (A) *by striking the item relating to section*  
 20                   *3735; and*

21                   (B) *by striking the item relating to sub-*  
 22                   *chapter VI and the items relating to sections*  
 23                   *3771, 3772, 3773, 3774, and 3775.*

1           (3) *The table of sections at the beginning of*  
 2           *chapter 41 is amended by striking the item relating*  
 3           *to section 4111.*

4   **SEC. 6. EVALUATION OF HOMELESS PROGRAMS.**

5           (a) *EVALUATION CENTERS.*—*The Secretary of Vet-*  
 6           *erans Affairs shall support the continuation within the De-*  
 7           *partment of Veterans Affairs of at least one center for eval-*  
 8           *uation to monitor the structure, process, and outcome of*  
 9           *programs of the Department of Veterans Affairs that ad-*  
 10          *dress homeless veterans.*

11          (b) *ANNUAL PROGRAM ASSESSMENT.*—*Section*  
 12          *2034(b), as transferred and redesignated by section 5(b)(1),*  
 13          *is amended—*

14                 (1) *by inserting “annual” in paragraph (1) after*  
 15                 *“to make an”; and*

16                 (2) *by adding at the end the following new para-*  
 17                 *graph:*

18                 “(6) *The Secretary shall review each annual assess-*  
 19                 *ment under this subsection and shall consolidate the find-*  
 20                 *ings and conclusions of those assessments into an annual*  
 21                 *report to be submitted to Congress.”.*

1 **SEC. 7. STUDY OF OUTCOME EFFECTIVENESS OF GRANT**  
2 **PROGRAM FOR HOMELESS VETERANS WITH**  
3 **SPECIAL NEEDS.**

4 (a) *STUDY.*—*The Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall*  
5 *conduct a study of the effectiveness during fiscal year 2002*  
6 *through fiscal year 2004 of the grant program under section*  
7 *2061 of title 38, United States Code, as added by section*  
8 *5(a), in meeting the needs of homeless veterans with special*  
9 *needs (as specified in that section). As part of the study,*  
10 *the Secretary shall compare the results of programs carried*  
11 *out under that section, in terms of veterans’ satisfaction,*  
12 *health status, reduction in addiction severity, housing, and*  
13 *encouragement of productive activity, with results for simi-*  
14 *lar veterans in programs of the Department or of grant and*  
15 *per diem providers that are designed to meet the general*  
16 *needs of homeless veterans.*

17 (b) *REPORT.*—*Not later than March 31, 2005, the Sec-*  
18 *retary shall submit to the Committees on Veterans’ Affairs*  
19 *of the Senate and House of Representatives a report setting*  
20 *forth the results of the study under subsection (a).*

21 **SEC. 8. ADDITIONAL PROGRAMMATIC EXPANSIONS.**

22 (a) *ACCESS TO MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES.*—*Section*  
23 *1706 is amended by adding at the end the following new*  
24 *subsection:*

25 “(c) *The Secretary shall develop standards to ensure*  
26 *that mental health services are available to veterans in a*



1 manner similar to the manner in which primary care is  
 2 available to veterans who require services by ensuring that  
 3 each primary care health care facility of the Department  
 4 has a mental health treatment capacity.”.

5 (b) *COMPREHENSIVE HOMELESS SERVICES PRO-*  
 6 *GRAM.*—Subsection (b) of section 2033, as transferred and  
 7 redesignated by section 5(b)(1), is amended—

8 (1) by striking “not fewer” in the first sentence  
 9 and all that follows through “services) at”; and

10 (2) by adding at the end the following new sen-  
 11 tence: “The Secretary shall carry out the program  
 12 under this section in sites in at least each of the 20  
 13 largest metropolitan statistical areas.”.

14 (c) *OPIOID SUBSTITUTION THERAPY.*—Section 1720A  
 15 is amended by adding at the end the following new sub-  
 16 section:

17 “(d) The Secretary shall ensure that opioid substi-  
 18 tution therapy is available at each Department medical  
 19 center.”.

20 **SEC. 9. COORDINATION OF EMPLOYMENT SERVICES.**

21 (a) *DISABLED VETERANS’ OUTREACH PROGRAM.*—  
 22 Section 4103A(c) is amended by adding at the end the fol-  
 23 lowing new paragraph:

24 “(11) Coordination of services provided to vet-  
 25 erans with training assistance provided to veterans

1       *by entities receiving financial assistance under sec-*  
 2       *tion 2021 of this title.”.*

3       **(b) LOCAL VETERANS’ EMPLOYMENT REPRESENTA-**  
 4       **TIVES.**—Section 4104(b) is amended by adding at the end  
 5       *the following new paragraph:*

6               “(13) Coordinate services provided to veterans  
 7       *with training assistance for veterans provided by en-*  
 8       *tities receiving financial assistance under section*  
 9       *2021 of this title.”.*

10   **SEC. 10. USE OF REAL PROPERTY.**

11       **(a) LIMITATION ON DECLARING PROPERTY EXCESS TO**  
 12       **THE NEEDS OF THE DEPARTMENT.**—Section 8122(d) is  
 13       *amended by inserting before the period at the end the fol-*  
 14       *lowing: “and is not suitable for use for the provision of serv-*  
 15       *ices to homeless veterans by the Department or by another*  
 16       *entity under an enhanced-use lease of such property under*  
 17       *section 8162 of this title”.*

18       **(b) WAIVER OF COMPETITIVE SELECTION PROCESS**  
 19       **FOR ENHANCED-USE LEASES FOR PROPERTIES USED TO**  
 20       **SERVE HOMELESS VETERANS.**—Section 8162(b)(1) is  
 21       *amended—*

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

23               (2) *by adding at the end the following:*

24               “(B) *In the case of a property that the Secretary deter-*  
 25       *mines is appropriate for use as a facility to furnish services*

1 *to homeless veterans under chapter 20 of this title, the Sec-*  
 2 *retary may enter into an enhanced-use lease without regard*  
 3 *to the selection procedures required under subparagraph*  
 4 *(A).”.*

5 *(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by sub-*  
 6 *section (b) shall apply to leases entered into on or after the*  
 7 *date of the enactment of this Act.*

8 **SEC. 11. MEETINGS OF INTERAGENCY COUNCIL ON HOME-**  
 9 **LESS.**

10 *Section 202(c) of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assist-*  
 11 *ance Act (42 U.S.C. 11312(c)) is amended to read as fol-*  
 12 *lows:*

13 *“(c) MEETINGS.—The Council shall meet at the call*  
 14 *of its Chairperson or a majority of its members, but not*  
 15 *less often than annually.”.*

16 **SEC. 12. RENTAL ASSISTANCE VOUCHERS FOR HUD VET-**  
 17 **ERANS AFFAIRS SUPPORTED HOUSING PRO-**  
 18 **GRAM.**

19 *Section 8(o) of the United States Housing Act of 1937*  
 20 *(42 U.S.C. 1437f(o)) is amended by adding at the end the*  
 21 *following new paragraph:*

22 *“(19) RENTAL VOUCHERS FOR VETERANS AF-*  
 23 *FAIRS SUPPORTED HOUSING PROGRAM.—*

24 *“(A) SET ASIDE.—Subject to subparagraph*  
 25 *(C), the Secretary shall set aside, from amounts*

1       *made available for rental assistance under this*  
2       *subsection, the amounts specified in subpara-*  
3       *graph (B) for use only for providing such assist-*  
4       *ance through a supported housing program ad-*  
5       *ministered in conjunction with the Department*  
6       *of Veterans Affairs. Such program shall provide*  
7       *rental assistance on behalf of homeless veterans*  
8       *who have chronic mental illnesses or chronic sub-*  
9       *stance use disorders, shall require agreement of*  
10       *the veteran to continued treatment for such men-*  
11       *tal illness or substance use disorder as a condi-*  
12       *tion of receipt of such rental assistance, and*  
13       *shall ensure such treatment and appropriate case*  
14       *management for each veteran receiving such*  
15       *rental assistance.*

16               “(B) AMOUNT.—*The amount specified in*  
17       *this subparagraph is—*

18                       “(i) *for fiscal year 2003, the amount*  
19                       *necessary to provide 500 vouchers for rental*  
20                       *assistance under this subsection;*

21                       “(ii) *for fiscal year 2004, the amount*  
22                       *necessary to provide 1,000 vouchers for*  
23                       *rental assistance under this subsection;*

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

4                   “(iv) for fiscal year 2006, the amount  
5                   necessary to provide 2,000 vouchers for  
6                   rental assistance under this subsection.

7                   “(C) *FUNDING THROUGH INCREMENTAL AS-*  
8                   *SISTANCE.—In any fiscal year, to the extent that*  
9                   *this paragraph requires the Secretary to set aside*  
10                  *rental assistance amounts for use under this*  
11                  *paragraph in an amount that exceeds that set*  
12                  *aside in the preceding fiscal year, such require-*  
13                  *ment shall be effective only to such extent or in*  
14                  *such amounts as are or have been provided in*  
15                  *appropriation Acts for such fiscal year for incre-*  
16                  *mental rental assistance under this subsection.”.*

**Union Calendar No. 145**

107TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

**H. R. 2716**

**[Report No. 107–241, Part I]**

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**A BILL**

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

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OCTOBER 16, 2001

Reported from the Committee on Veterans' Affairs with  
an amendment

OCTOBER 16, 2001

Referral to the Committee on Financial Services extended  
for a period ending not later than October 16, 2001

OCTOBER 16, 2001

Committee on Financial Services discharged; committed  
to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of  
the Union and ordered to be printed