

Union Calendar No. 170

110TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2874

[Report No. 110-268]

To amend title 38, United States Code, to make certain improvements in the provision of health care to veterans, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 27, 2007

Mr. MICHAUD (for himself, Mr. FILNER, Mr. HALL of New York, Ms. CORRINE BROWN of Florida, Mr. SALAZAR, Mr. RODRIGUEZ, Ms. HERSETH SANDLIN, Ms. BERKLEY, Mr. MAHONEY of Florida, Mr. LOEBSACK, Mr. BOSWELL, Mr. MCNERNEY, Mr. ARCURI, Mr. PATRICK J. MURPHY of Pennsylvania, Mr. DONNELLY, Mr. MITCHELL, Mr. WALZ of Minnesota, and Mr. HARE) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs

JULY 27, 2007

Additional sponsors: Mr. ALLEN, Mr. SPACE, Mrs. BOYDA of Kansas, Mr. WELCH of Vermont, Mr. ALTMIRE, and Mr. YOUNG of Alaska

JULY 27, 2007

Reported with an amendment, committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union, and ordered to be printed

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

[For text of introduced bill, see copy of bill as introduced on June 27, 2007]

A BILL

To amend title 38, United States Code, to make certain improvements in the provision of health care to veterans, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
 2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.**

4 (a) *SHORT TITLE.*—*This Act may be cited as the “Vet-*
 5 *erans’ Health Care Improvement Act of 2007”.*

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

Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.

Sec. 2. Grants for support of therapeutic readjustment programs for veterans.

Sec. 3. Transportation grants for rural veterans service organizations.

Sec. 4. Permanent treatment authority for participants in Department of Defense
chemical and biological testing conducted by Deseret Test Center
(including Project Shipboard Hazard and Defense).

Sec. 5. Extension of expiring collections authorities.

Sec. 6. Readjustment and mental health services for Operation Enduring Free-
dom and Operation Iraqi Freedom Veterans.

Sec. 7. Expansion and extension of authority for program of referral and coun-
seling services for at-risk veterans transitioning from certain in-
stitutions.

Sec. 8. Permanent authority for domiciliary services for homeless veterans and
enhancement of capacity of domiciliary care programs for fe-
male veterans.

Sec. 9. Financial assistance for supportive services for very low-income veteran
families in permanent housing.

Sec. 10. Expansion of eligibility for dental care.

Sec. 11. Technical amendments.

8 **SEC. 2. GRANTS FOR SUPPORT OF THERAPEUTIC READ-**
 9 **JUSTMENT PROGRAMS FOR VETERANS.**

10 (a) *GRANT PROGRAM.*—*Subchapter II of chapter 5 of*
 11 *title 38, United States Code, is amended by inserting after*
 12 *section 521 the following new section:*

13 **“§ 521A. Assistance to therapeutic readjustment pro-**
 14 **grams**

15 *“(a) GRANT PROGRAM.*—*The Secretary of Veterans Af-*
 16 *fairs may make grants to qualified entities described in sub-*

1 *section (b) to conduct workshop programs that have been*
 2 *shown to assist in the therapeutic readjustment and reha-*
 3 *bilitation of participants to assist in the therapeutic read-*
 4 *justment of covered veterans.*

5 “(b) *QUALIFIED ENTITIES.*—*In order to qualify for*
 6 *grant assistance under subsection (a), a private nonprofit*
 7 *entity must have, as determined by the Secretary, experi-*
 8 *ence and expertise in offering programs to assist in the*
 9 *therapeutic readjustment of participants and that such pro-*
 10 *grams will likely assist covered veterans.*

11 “(c) *AMOUNT OF GRANT; USE OF FUNDS.*—*A grant*
 12 *under this section shall not exceed \$100,000 for any cal-*
 13 *endar year and shall be used by the recipient exclusively*
 14 *for the benefit of covered veterans.*

15 “(d) *APPLICATION.*—*An application for a grant under*
 16 *this section shall include details regarding the extent and*
 17 *nature of the proposed program, the therapeutic readjust-*
 18 *ment and rehabilitation benefits expected to be achieved by*
 19 *participants, and any other information the Secretary de-*
 20 *termines may be necessary to assist the Secretary in ensur-*
 21 *ing that covered veterans receive therapeutic readjustment*
 22 *and rehabilitation benefits.*

23 “(e) *COVERED VETERANS.*—*For the purposes of this*
 24 *subsection, a ‘covered veteran’ is a veteran who served on*
 25 *active duty in a theater of combat operations (as deter-*

1 *mined by the Secretary in consultation with the Secretary*
 2 *of Defense) during a period of war after the Persian Gulf*
 3 *War, or in combat against a hostile force during a period*
 4 *of hostilities (as defined in section 1712A(a)(2)(B) of this*
 5 *title) after November 11, 1998, and who is discharged or*
 6 *released from active military, naval, or air service on or*
 7 *after September 11, 2001.*

8 “(f) *REPORTS.*—Not later than 60 days after the last
 9 *day of a fiscal year, the Secretary shall submit to the Com-*
 10 *mittees on Veterans’ Affairs of the Senate and House of*
 11 *Representatives a report detailing the number and amount*
 12 *of grants made under this section during the previous fiscal*
 13 *year, the total number of covered veterans participating in*
 14 *workshop programs funded by such grants, a description*
 15 *of the programs, and the therapeutic benefits to covered vet-*
 16 *erans of participation in the various programs funded.*

17 “(g) *AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.*—There is
 18 *authorized to be appropriated for each of fiscal years 2008*
 19 *through 2011 \$2,000,000 to carry out this section.*

20 “(h) *TERMINATION.*—The authority of the Secretary to
 21 *make a grant under subsection (a) shall terminate on Sep-*
 22 *tember 30, 2011.”.*

23 “(b) *CLERICAL AMENDMENT.*—The table of sections at
 24 *the beginning of such chapter is amended by inserting after*
 25 *the item relating to section 521 the following new item:*

“521A. Assistance to therapeutic readjustment programs.”.

1 **SEC. 3. TRANSPORTATION GRANTS FOR RURAL VETERANS**
2 **SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS.**

3 (a) *GRANT PROGRAM.*—Subchapter I of chapter 17 of
4 title 38, United States Code, is amended by adding at the
5 end the following new section:

6 **“§ 1709. Grants for provision of transportation to De-**
7 **partment medical facilities for veterans**
8 **in remote rural areas**

9 “(a) *GRANTS AUTHORIZED.*—(1) *The Secretary shall*
10 *establish a grant program to provide innovative transpor-*
11 *tation options to veterans in remote rural areas.*

12 “(2) *Grants awarded under this section may be used*
13 *by State veterans’ service agencies, veterans service organi-*
14 *zations, and private nonprofit entities to assist veterans in*
15 *remote rural areas to travel to Department medical facili-*
16 *ties.*

17 “(3) *The amount of a grant under this section may*
18 *not exceed \$50,000.*

19 “(4) *The recipient of a grant under this section shall*
20 *not be required to provide matching funds as a condition*
21 *for receiving such grant.*

22 “(b) *REGULATIONS.*—*The Secretary shall prescribe*
23 *regulations for—*

24 “(1) *evaluating grant applications under this*
25 *section; and*

1 “(2) otherwise administering the program estab-
2 lished by this section.

3 “(c) *AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.*—*There is*
4 *authorized to be appropriated \$3,000,000 for each of fiscal*
5 *years 2008 through 2012 to carry out this section.*”.

6 (b) *CLERICAL AMENDMENT.*—*The table of sections at*
7 *the beginning of such chapter is amended by inserting after*
8 *the item relating to section 1708 the following new item:*

*“1709. Grants for provision of transportation to Department medical facilities for
veterans in remote rural areas.”.*

9 ***SEC. 4. PERMANENT TREATMENT AUTHORITY FOR PARTICI-***
10 ***PANTS IN DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE CHEM-***
11 ***ICAL AND BIOLOGICAL TESTING CONDUCTED***
12 ***BY DESERET TEST CENTER (INCLUDING***
13 ***PROJECT SHIPBOARD HAZARD AND DE-***
14 ***FENSE).***

15 *Section 1710(e)(3) of title 38, United States Code, is*
16 *amended—*

17 (1) *in subparagraph (B), by inserting “and”*
18 *after the semicolon;*

19 (2) *in subparagraph (C), by striking “; and”*
20 *and inserting a period; and*

21 (3) *by striking subparagraph (D).*

1 **SEC. 5. EXTENSION OF EXPIRING COLLECTIONS AUTHORI-**
 2 **TIES.**

3 (a) *HEALTH CARE COPAYMENTS.*—Section
 4 1710(f)(2)(B) is amended by striking “2007” and inserting
 5 “2009”.

6 (b) *MEDICAL CARE COST RECOVERY.*—Section
 7 1729(a)(2)(E) is amended by striking “2007” and inserting
 8 “2009”.

9 **SEC. 6. READJUSTMENT AND MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES**
 10 **FOR COVERED VETERANS.**

11 (a) *PROVISION OF READJUSTMENT COUNSELING AND*
 12 *MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES.*—Subchapter II of chapter 17
 13 of title 38, United States Code, is amended by inserting
 14 after section 1712B the following new section:

15 **“§1712C. Provision of readjustment counseling and**
 16 **mental health services for covered vet-**
 17 **erans**

18 “(a) *PROGRAM REQUIRED.*—The Secretary shall carry
 19 out a program to provide peer outreach services, peer sup-
 20 port services, and readjustment and mental health services
 21 to covered veterans.

22 “(b) *CONTRACTS WITH COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH*
 23 *CENTERS.*—In carrying out the program required by sub-
 24 section (a), the Secretary shall contract with community
 25 mental health centers and other qualified entities to provide
 26 the services referred to in that paragraph in areas the Sec-

1 *retary determines are not adequately served by health care*
2 *facilities of the Department. Such contracts shall require*
3 *each community health center or other entity—*

4 “(1) to the extent practicable, to employ covered
5 *veterans trained under subsection (c);*

6 “(2) to the extent practicable, to use telehealth
7 *services for the provision of such services;*

8 “(3) to participate in the training program
9 *under subsection (d);*

10 “(4) to comply with applicable protocols of the
11 *Department before incurring any liability on behalf*
12 *of the Department for the provision of such the serv-*
13 *ices;*

14 “(5) to submit annual reports to the Secretary
15 *containing, with respect to the program required by*
16 *subsection (a) and for the last full calendar year end-*
17 *ing before the submission of such report—*

18 “(A) *the number of veterans served, veterans*
19 *diagnosed, and courses of treatment provided to*
20 *veterans as part of the program required by sub-*
21 *section (a); and*

22 “(B) *demographic information for such*
23 *services, diagnoses, and courses of treatment;*

24 “(6) to provide to the Secretary such clinical
25 *summary information as the Secretary may require*

1 *for each veteran for whom the center or entity pro-*
2 *vides mental health services under the contract; and*
3 *“(7) to meet such other requirements as the Sec-*
4 *retary may require.*

5 *“(c) TRAINING PROGRAM FOR VETERANS.—In car-*
6 *rying out the program required by subsection (a), the Sec-*
7 *retary shall contract with a nonprofit mental health organi-*
8 *zation to carry out a program to train covered veterans*
9 *to provide peer outreach and peer support services.*

10 *“(d) TRAINING PROGRAM FOR CLINICIANS.—The Sec-*
11 *retary shall conduct a training program for clinicians of*
12 *community mental health centers or other entities that have*
13 *entered into contracts with the Secretary under subsection*
14 *(b) to ensure that such clinicians are able to provide the*
15 *services required by subsection (a) in a manner that—*

16 *“(1) recognizes factors that are unique to the ex-*
17 *perience of veterans who served on active duty in Op-*
18 *eration Iraqi Freedom or Operation Enduring Free-*
19 *dom (including the combat and military training ex-*
20 *periences of such veterans); and*

21 *“(2) utilizes best practices and technologies.*

22 *“(e) COVERED VETERANS.—For the purposes of this*
23 *subsection, a ‘covered veteran’ is a veteran who served on*
24 *active duty in a theater of combat operations (as deter-*
25 *mined by the Secretary in consultation with the Secretary*

1 of Defense) during a period of war after the Persian Gulf
 2 War, or in combat against a hostile force during a period
 3 of hostilities (as defined in section 1712A(a)(2)(B) of this
 4 title) after November 11, 1998, and who is discharged or
 5 released from active military, naval, or air service on or
 6 after September 11, 2001”.

7 (b) *CLERICAL AMENDMENT.*—The table of sections at
 8 the beginning of such chapter is amended by inserting after
 9 the item relating to section 1712B the following new item:

“1712C. Provision of readjustment counseling and mental health services for covered veterans.”.

10 **SEC. 7. EXPANSION AND EXTENSION OF AUTHORITY FOR**
 11 **PROGRAM OF REFERRAL AND COUNSELING**
 12 **SERVICES FOR AT-RISK VETERANS**
 13 **TRANSITIONING FROM CERTAIN INSTITU-**
 14 **TIONS.**

15 (a) *PROGRAM AUTHORITY.*—Subsection (a) of section
 16 2023 of title 38, United States Code, is amended by striking
 17 “a demonstration program for the purpose of determining
 18 the costs and benefits of providing” and inserting “a pro-
 19 gram to provide”.

20 (b) *SCOPE OF PROGRAM.*—Subsection (b) of such sec-
 21 tion is amended—

22 (1) by striking “DEMONSTRATION” in the sub-
 23 section heading;

24 (2) by striking “demonstration”; and

1 (3) by striking “in at least six locations” and
2 inserting “in at least 12 locations”.

3 (c) *EXTENSION OF AUTHORITY*.—Subsection (d) of
4 such section is amended by striking “shall cease” and all
5 that follows and inserting “shall cease on September 30,
6 2011.”.

7 (d) *CONFORMING AMENDMENTS*.—

8 (1) *SCOPE OF PROGRAM*.—Subsection (c)(1) of
9 such section is amended by striking “demonstration”.

10 (2) *SECTION HEADING*.—The heading of such sec-
11 tion is amended to read as follows:

12 **“§ 2023. Referral and counseling services: veterans at**
13 **risk of homelessness who are**
14 **transitioning from certain institutions”.**

15 (3) *OTHER CONFORMING AMENDMENT*.—Section
16 2022(f)(2)(C) of such title is amended by striking
17 “demonstration”.

18 (e) *CLERICAL AMENDMENT*.—The table of sections at
19 the beginning of chapter 20 of such title is amended by
20 striking the item relating to section 2023 and inserting the
21 following new item:

“2023. Referral and counseling services: veterans at risk of homelessness who are
transitioning from certain institutions.”.

1 **SEC. 8. PERMANENT AUTHORITY FOR DOMICILIARY SERV-**
 2 **ICES FOR HOMELESS VETERANS AND EN-**
 3 **HANCEMENT OF CAPACITY OF DOMICILIARY**
 4 **CARE PROGRAMS FOR FEMALE VETERANS.**

5 *Subsection (b) of section 2043 of title 38, United States*
 6 *Code, is amended to read as follows:*

7 “(b) *ENHANCEMENT OF CAPACITY OF DOMICILIARY*
 8 *CARE PROGRAMS FOR FEMALE VETERANS.*—*The Secretary*
 9 *shall take appropriate actions to ensure that the domi-*
 10 *ciliary care programs of the Department are adequate, with*
 11 *respect to capacity and safety, to meet the needs of veterans*
 12 *who are women.”.*

13 **SEC. 9. FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR SUPPORTIVE SERV-**
 14 **ICES FOR VERY LOW-INCOME VETERAN FAMI-**
 15 **LIES IN PERMANENT HOUSING.**

16 (a) *PURPOSE.*—*The purpose of this section is to facili-*
 17 *tate the provision of supportive services for very low-income*
 18 *veteran families in permanent housing.*

19 (b) *AUTHORIZATION OF FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE.*—

20 (1) *IN GENERAL.*—*Subchapter V of chapter 20 of*
 21 *title 38, United States Code, is amended by adding*
 22 *at the end the following new section:*

23 **“§ 2044. Financial assistance for supportive services**
 24 **for very low-income veteran families resid-**
 25 **ing in permanent housing**

26 “(a) *DISTRIBUTION OF FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE.*—

1 “(1) *The Secretary shall provide financial assist-*
2 *ance to eligible entities approved under this section to*
3 *provide and coordinate the provision of the supportive*
4 *services for very low-income veteran families residing*
5 *in permanent housing.*

6 “(2)(A) *Financial assistance under this section*
7 *shall consist of payments for each such family for*
8 *which an approved eligible entity provides or coordi-*
9 *nates the provision of supportive services.*

10 “(B) *The Secretary shall establish a formula for*
11 *determining the rate of payments provided to a very*
12 *low-income veteran family receiving supportive serv-*
13 *ices under this section. The rate shall be adjusted not*
14 *less than once annually to reflect changes in the cost*
15 *of living. In calculating the payment formula under*
16 *this subparagraph, the Secretary may consider geo-*
17 *graphic cost of living variances, family size, and the*
18 *cost of services provided.*

19 “(3) *In providing financial assistance under*
20 *paragraph (1), the Secretary shall give preference to*
21 *an entity that provides or coordinates the provision*
22 *of supportive services for very low-income veteran*
23 *families who are transitioning from homelessness to*
24 *permanent housing.*

1 “(4) *The Secretary shall ensure that, to the ex-*
2 *tent practicable, financial assistance under this sub-*
3 *section is equitably distributed across geographic re-*
4 *gions, including rural communities and tribal lands.*

5 “(5) *Each entity receiving financial assistance*
6 *under this section to provide supportive services to a*
7 *very low-income veteran family shall notify the fam-*
8 *ily that such services are being paid for, in whole or*
9 *in part, by the Department.*

10 “(6) *The Secretary may require an entity receiv-*
11 *ing financial assistance under this section to submit*
12 *a report to the Secretary describing the supportive*
13 *services provided with such financial assistance.*

14 “(b) *APPLICATION FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE.—*

15 “(1) *An eligible entity seeking financial assist-*
16 *ance under subsection (a) shall submit to the Sec-*
17 *retary an application in such form, in such manner,*
18 *and containing such commitments and information*
19 *as the Secretary determines to be necessary.*

20 “(2) *An application submitted under paragraph*
21 *(1) shall contain—*

22 “(A) *a description of the supportive services*
23 *proposed to be provided by the eligible entity;*

1 “(B) a description of the types of very low-
2 income veteran families proposed to be provided
3 such services;

4 “(C) an estimate of the number of very low-
5 income veteran families proposed to be provided
6 such services;

7 “(D) evidence of the experience of the eligi-
8 ble entity in providing supportive services to
9 very low-income veteran families; and

10 “(E) a description of the managerial capac-
11 ity of the eligible entity to—

12 “(i) coordinate the provision of sup-
13 portive services with the provision of per-
14 manent housing, by the eligible entity or by
15 other organizations;

16 “(ii) continuously assess the needs of
17 very low-income veteran families for sup-
18 portive services;

19 “(iii) coordinate the provision of sup-
20 portive services with the services of the De-
21 partment;

22 “(iv) tailor supportive services to the
23 needs of very low-income veteran families;
24 and

1 “(v) continuously seek new sources of
2 assistance to ensure the long-term provision
3 of supportive services to very low-income
4 veteran families.

5 “(3) The Secretary shall establish criteria for the
6 selection of eligible entities to receive financial assist-
7 ance under this section.

8 “(c) TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.—

9 “(1) The Secretary shall provide training and
10 technical assistance to eligible entities that receive fi-
11 nancial assistance under this section with respect to
12 the planning, development, and provision of sup-
13 portive services to very low-income veteran families
14 occupying permanent housing.

15 “(2) The Secretary may provide the training de-
16 scribed in paragraph (1) directly or through grants or
17 contracts with appropriate public or nonprofit pri-
18 vate entities.

19 “(d) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is
20 authorized to be appropriated, for each fiscal year,
21 \$25,000,000, to carry out this section, of which not more
22 than \$750,000 for each fiscal year may be used to provide
23 technical assistance under subsection (c).

24 “(e) DEFINITIONS.—For the purposes of this section:

1 “(1) The term ‘very low-income veteran family’
2 means a veteran family whose income does not exceed
3 50 percent of the median income for the area, as de-
4 termined by the Secretary in accordance with this
5 paragraph, except that—

6 “(A) the Secretary shall make appropriate
7 adjustments to the income requirement under
8 subparagraph (A) based on family size; and

9 “(B) the Secretary may establish an income
10 ceiling higher or lower than 50 percent of the
11 median income for an area if the Secretary de-
12 termines that such variations are necessary be-
13 cause the area has unusually high or low con-
14 struction costs, fair market rents (as determined
15 under section 8 of the United States Housing Act
16 of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437f)), or family incomes.

17 “(C) the Secretary shall establish criteria
18 for determining the need for specific supportive
19 services (as defined by paragraph (8)) of indi-
20 vidual very low income veteran families occu-
21 pying permanent housing.

22 “(2) The term ‘veteran family’ includes a veteran
23 who is a single person and a family in which the
24 head of household or the spouse of the head of house-
25 hold is a veteran.

1 “(3) The term ‘consumer cooperative’ has the
2 meaning given such term in section 202 of the Hous-
3 ing Act of 1959 (12 U.S.C. 1701q).

4 “(4) The term ‘eligible entity’ means—

5 “(A) a private nonprofit organization; or

6 “(B) a consumer cooperative.

7 “(5) The term ‘homeless’ has the meaning given
8 the term in section 103 of the McKinney-Vento Home-
9 less Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 11302).

10 “(6) The term ‘permanent housing’ means com-
11 munity-based housing without a designated length of
12 stay.

13 “(7) The term ‘private nonprofit organization’
14 means—

15 “(A) any incorporated private institution
16 or foundation—

17 “(i) no part of the net earnings of
18 which inures to the benefit of any member,
19 founder, contributor, or individual;

20 “(ii) which has a governing board that
21 is responsible for the operation of the sup-
22 portive services provided under this section;
23 and

24 “(iii) which is approved by the Sec-
25 retary as to financial responsibility;

1 “(B) a for-profit limited partnership, the
2 sole general partner of which is an organization
3 meeting the requirements of clauses (i), (ii), and
4 (iii) of subparagraph (A);

5 “(C) a corporation wholly owned and con-
6 trolled by an organization meeting the require-
7 ments of clauses (i), (ii), and (iii) of subpara-
8 graph (A); and

9 “(D) a tribally designated housing entity
10 (as defined in section 4 of the Native American
11 Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act
12 of 1996 (25 U.S.C. 4103)).

13 “(8) The term ‘supportive services’ means the fol-
14 lowing:

15 “(A) Services provided by an eligible entity
16 or subcontractors that address the needs of very
17 low-income veteran families occupying perma-
18 nent housing, including—

19 “(i) outreach services;

20 “(ii) health care services, including di-
21 agnosis, treatment, and counseling for men-
22 tal health and substance abuse disorders
23 and for post-traumatic stress disorder, if
24 such services are not readily available
25 through the Department of Veterans Affairs

1 *medical center serving the geographic area*
2 *in which the veteran family is housed;*
3 “(iii) *habilitation and rehabilitation*
4 *services;*
5 “(iv) *case management services;*
6 “(v) *daily living services;*
7 “(vi) *personal financial planning;*
8 “(vii) *transportation services;*
9 “(viii) *vocational counseling;*
10 “(ix) *employment and training;*
11 “(x) *educational services;*
12 “(xi) *assistance in obtaining veterans*
13 *benefits and other public benefits, including*
14 *health care provided by the Department;*
15 “(xii) *assistance in obtaining income*
16 *support;*
17 “(xiii) *assistance in obtaining health*
18 *insurance;*
19 “(xiv) *fiduciary and representative*
20 *payee services;*
21 “(xv) *legal services to assist the veteran*
22 *family with reconsiderations or appeals of*
23 *veterans and public benefit claim denials*
24 *and to resolve outstanding warrants that*

1 *interfere with the family’s ability to obtain*
2 *or retain housing or supportive services;*

3 *“(xvi) child care;*

4 *“(xvii) housing counseling;*

5 *“(xviii) other services necessary for*
6 *maintaining independent living; and*

7 *“(xix) coordination of services de-*
8 *scribed in this paragraph.*

9 *“(B) Services provided by an eligible entity*
10 *or subcontractors, including services described in*
11 *clauses (i) through (xix) of subparagraph (A),*
12 *that are delivered to very low-income veteran*
13 *families who are homeless and who are scheduled*
14 *to become residents of permanent housing within*
15 *90 days of the date on which the service is pro-*
16 *vided pending the location or development of*
17 *housing suitable for permanent housing.*

18 *“(C) Services provided by an eligible entity*
19 *or subcontractors, including services described in*
20 *clauses (i) through (xix) of subparagraph (A), for*
21 *very low-income veteran families who have vol-*
22 *untarily chosen to seek other housing after a pe-*
23 *riod of tenancy in permanent housing, that are*
24 *provided, for a period of 90 days beginning on*
25 *the date on which such a family exits permanent*

1 *housing or until such a family commences re-*
 2 *ceipt of other housing services adequate to meet*
 3 *the needs of the family, but only to the extent*
 4 *that services under this paragraph are designed*
 5 *to support such a family in the choice to transi-*
 6 *tion into housing that is responsive to the indi-*
 7 *vidual needs and preferences of the family.”.*

8 (2) *CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sec-*
 9 *tions at the beginning of such chapter is amended by*
 10 *inserting after the item relating to section 2043 the*
 11 *following new item:*

“2044. Financial assistance for supportive services for very low-income veteran
 families residing in permanent housing.”.

12 **SEC. 10. EXPANSION OF ELIGIBILITY FOR DENTAL CARE.**

13 *Section 2062(b) of title 38, United States Code, is*
 14 *amended by striking “60 consecutive days” both places it*
 15 *appears and inserting “30 consecutive days”.*

16 **SEC. 11. TECHNICAL AMENDMENTS.**

17 *Title 38, United States Code, is amended—*

18 (1) *in each of sections 1708(d), 7314(f),*
 19 *7320(j)(2), 7325(i)(2), and 7328(i)(2), by striking*
 20 *“medical care account” and inserting “medical serv-*
 21 *ices account”;*

22 (2) *in section 1712A—*

23 (A) *by striking subsection (g);*

1 (B) by redesignating subsections (d), (e), (f),
 2 and (i) as subsections (c) through (f), respec-
 3 tively; and

4 (C) in subsection (f)(1), as so redesignated,
 5 by striking “(including a Resource Center des-
 6 ignated under subsection (h)(3)(A) of this sec-
 7 tion)”;

8 (3) in section 2065(b)(3)(C), by striking “”;

9 (4) in the table of sections at the beginning of
 10 chapter 36, by striking the item relating to section
 11 3684A and inserting the following new item:

“3684A. Procedures relating to computer matching program.”;

12 (5) in section 3684(a)(1), by striking “34,” and
 13 inserting “34,”;

14 (6) in section 4110(c)(1), by striking “15” and
 15 inserting “16”;

16 (7) in the table of sections at the beginning of
 17 chapter 51, by striking the item relating to section
 18 5121 and inserting the following new item:

“5121. Payment of certain accrued benefits upon death of a beneficiary.”;

19 (8) in section 7458(b)(2), by striking “pro rated”
 20 and inserting “pro-rated”; and

21 (9) in section 8117(a)(1), by striking “such
 22 such” and inserting “such”.

Union Calendar No. 170

110TH CONGRESS
1ST Session

H. R. 2874

[Report No. 110-268]

A BILL

To amend title 38, United States Code, to make certain improvements in the provision of health care to veterans, and for other purposes.

JULY 27, 2007

Reported with an amendment, committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union, and ordered to be printed