

112TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# S. 1017

To amend title 38, United States Code, to increase assistance for disabled veterans who are temporarily residing in housing owned by a family member, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MAY 17, 2011

Mr. SANDERS introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs

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## A BILL

To amend title 38, United States Code, to increase assistance for disabled veterans who are temporarily residing in housing owned by a family member, 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.**

4       This Act may be cited as the “Disabled Veteran Care-  
5       giver Housing Assistance Act of 2011”.

1 **SEC. 2. INCREASED ASSISTANCE FOR DISABLED VETERANS**  
 2 **RESIDING IN HOUSING OWNED BY A FAMILY**  
 3 **MEMBER.**

4 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 2102A of title 38, United  
 5 States Code, is amended—

6 (1) in subsection (b)—

7 (A) in paragraph (1), by striking  
 8 “\$14,000” and inserting “\$28,000”; and

9 (B) in paragraph (2), by striking “\$2,000”  
 10 and inserting “\$5,000”;

11 (2) by redesignating subsection (e) as sub-  
 12 section (f); and

13 (3) by inserting after subsection (d) the fol-  
 14 lowing new subsection (e):

15 “(e) ADJUSTMENT.—(1) Effective on October 1 of  
 16 each year (beginning in 2011), the Secretary shall increase  
 17 the amounts described in paragraphs (1) and (2) of sub-  
 18 section (b) in accordance with this subsection.

19 “(2) The increase in amounts under paragraph (1)  
 20 to take effect on October 1 of a year shall be by an amount  
 21 of such amounts equal to the percentage by which—

22 “(A) the residential home cost-of-construction  
 23 index for the preceding calendar year, exceeds

24 “(B) the residential home cost-of-construction  
 25 index for the year preceding the year described in  
 26 subparagraph (A).

1 “(3) For the purposes of this subsection, the Sec-  
 2 retary shall use the residential home cost-of-construction  
 3 index established under section 2102(e)(3) of this title.”.

4 (b) PERMANENT AUTHORITY.—Such section is fur-  
 5 ther amended by striking subsection (f), as redesignated  
 6 by subsection (a)(2).

7 (c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by  
 8 this section shall take effect on the date of the enactment  
 9 of this Act and shall apply with respect to payments made  
 10 in accordance with section 2102A of title 38, United  
 11 States Code, on or after that date.

12 **SEC. 3. EXPANSION OF ELIGIBILITY FOR SPECIALLY**  
 13 **ADAPTED HOUSING ASSISTANCE FOR VET-**  
 14 **ERANS WITH VISION IMPAIRMENT.**

15 Paragraph (2) of section 2101(b) of title 38, United  
 16 States Code, is amended to read as follows:

17 “(2) A veteran is described in this paragraph if the  
 18 veteran is entitled to compensation under chapter 11 of  
 19 this title for a service-connected disability that meets any  
 20 of the following criteria:

21 “(A) The disability is due to blindness in both  
 22 eyes, having central visual acuity of 20/200 or less  
 23 in the better eye with the use of a standard cor-  
 24 recting lens. For the purposes of this subparagraph,  
 25 an eye with a limitation in the fields of vision such

1       that the widest diameter of the visual field subtends  
2       an angle no greater than 20 degrees shall be consid-  
3       ered as having a central visual acuity of 20/200 or  
4       less.

5               “(B) A permanent and total disability that in-  
6       cludes the anatomical loss or loss of use of both  
7       hands.

8               “(C) A permanent and total disability that is  
9       due to a severe burn injury (as so determined).”.

10 **SEC. 4. REVISED LIMITATIONS ON ASSISTANCE FUR-**  
11 **NISHED.**

12       Section 2102(d) of title 38, United States Code, is  
13 amended—

14               (1) in paragraph (1), by striking “under sec-  
15       tions 2101(a) and 2102A” and inserting “under sec-  
16       tion 2101(a)”; and

17               (2) in paragraph (2), by striking “under sec-  
18       tions 2101(b) and 2102A” and inserting “under sec-  
19       tion 2101(b)”.

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