

104TH CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

H.R. 2353

AMENDMENTS

TO

SENATE AMENDMENTS

In the House of Representatives, U. S.,

January 25, 1996.

Resolved, That the House agree to the amendments of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 2353) entitled “An Act to amend title 38, United States Code, to extend certain expiring authorities of the Department of Veterans Affairs relating to delivery of health and medical care, and for other purposes”, with the following

AMENDMENTS:

In lieu of the matter inserted by said amendment, insert:

1 ***TITLE I—EXTENSIONS OF***
2 ***AUTHORITY***

3 ***SEC. 101. EXTENSION OF AUTHORITIES UNDER TITLE 38,***
4 ***UNITED STATES CODE.***

5 *(a) AUTHORITY TO PROVIDE PRIORITY HEALTH CARE*
6 *FOR CERTAIN VETERANS EXPOSED TO TOXIC SUB-*
7 *STANCES.—(1) Section 1710(e)(3) of title 38, United States*
8 *Code, is amended by striking out “after June 30, 1995,”*
9 *and all that follows through “December 31, 1995” and in-*
10 *serting in lieu thereof “after December 31, 1996”.*

1 (2) *Section 1712(a)(1)(D) of such title is amended by*
2 *striking out “December 31, 1995,” and inserting in lieu*
3 *thereof “December 31, 1996.”*

4 (b) *DRUG AND ALCOHOL ABUSE AND DEPENDENCE.—*
5 *Section 1720A(e) of such title is amended by striking out*
6 *“December 31, 1995” and inserting in lieu thereof “Decem-*
7 *ber 31, 1997.”*

8 (c) *PILOT PROGRAM FOR NONINSTITUTIONAL ALTER-*
9 *NATIVES TO NURSING HOME CARE.—Section 1720C(a) of*
10 *such title is amended by striking out “September 30, 1995,”*
11 *and inserting in lieu thereof “December 31, 1997.”*

12 (d) *NEGOTIATED INTEREST RATES.—Section*
13 *3703(c)(4) of such title is amended by striking out subpara-*
14 *graph (D).*

15 (e) *MORTGAGES FOR ENERGY EFFICIENT IMPROVE-*
16 *MENTS.—Section 3710(d) of such title is amended by strik-*
17 *ing out paragraph (7).*

18 (f) *ENHANCED LOAN ASSET SALE AUTHORITY.—Sec-*
19 *tion 3720(h)(2) of such title is amended by striking out*
20 *“December 31, 1995” and inserting in lieu thereof “Decem-*
21 *ber 31, 1996.”*

22 (g) *AUTHORITY OF LENDERS OF AUTOMATICALLY*
23 *GUARANTEED LOANS TO REVIEW APPRAISALS.—Section*
24 *3731(f) of such title is amended by striking out paragraph*
25 *(3).*

1 (b) *DEMONSTRATION PROGRAM OF COMPENSATED*
2 *WORK THERAPY.*—Section 7(a) of Public Law 102–54 (38
3 U.S.C. 1718 note) is amended by striking out “fiscal years
4 1991 through 1995” and inserting in lieu thereof “the pe-
5 riod beginning on October 1, 1991, and ending on December
6 31, 1997,”.

7 (c) *SERVICES AND ASSISTANCE TO HOMELESS VETER-*
8 *ANS.*—The Homeless Veterans Comprehensive Service Pro-
9 grams Act of 1992 (Public Law 102–590; 38 U.S.C. 7721
10 note) is amended—

11 (1) in section 2, by striking out “September 30,
12 1995,” and inserting in lieu thereof “September 30,
13 1997,”;

14 (2) in section 3(a)—

15 (A) by inserting “(1)” before “Subject to”;

16 (B) by striking out “fiscal years 1993,
17 1994, and 1995,”; and

18 (C) by adding at the end the following new
19 paragraph:

20 “(2) The authority of the Secretary to make grants
21 under this section expires on September 30, 1997.”; and

22 (3) in section 12, by striking out “each of the fis-
23 cal years 1993, 1994, and 1995” and inserting in lieu
24 thereof “each of fiscal years 1993 through 1997”.

1 (d) HOMELESS VETERANS' REINTEGRATION
2 PROJECTS.—(1) Section 738(e)(1) of the Stewart B.
3 McKinney Homeless Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 11448(e)(1))
4 is amended by adding at the end the following:

5 “(D) \$10,000,000 for fiscal year 1996.”.

6 (2) Section 741 of such Act (42 U.S.C. 11450) is
7 amended by striking out “October 1, 1995” and inserting
8 in lieu thereof “December 31, 1997”.

9 **SEC. 103. RATIFICATION OF ACTIONS TAKEN DURING PE-**
10 **RIOD OF EXPIRED AUTHORITY.**

11 Any action taken by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs
12 before the date of the enactment of this Act under a provi-
13 sion of law amended by this title that was taken during
14 the period beginning on the date on which the authority
15 of the Secretary under that provision of law expired and
16 ending on the date of the enactment of this Act shall be
17 considered to have the same force and effect as if the amend-
18 ment to that provision of law made by this title had been
19 in effect at the time of that action.

20 **TITLE II—OTHER PROVISIONS**

21 **SEC. 201. CODIFICATION OF HOUSING REPORTING RE-**
22 **QUIREMENTS AND CHANGES IN THEIR FRE-**
23 **QUENCY.**

24 (a) CODIFICATION OF HOUSING RELATED REPORTING
25 REQUIREMENTS.—(1) Chapter 37 of title 38, United States

1 Code, is amended by adding after section 3735 the following
 2 new section:

3 **“§ 3736. Reporting requirements**

4 “The annual report required by section 529 of this title
 5 shall include a discussion of the activities under this chap-
 6 ter. Beginning with the report submitted at the close of fis-
 7 cal year 1996, and every second year thereafter, this discus-
 8 sion shall include information regarding the following:

9 “(1) Loans made to veterans whose only qualify-
 10 ing service was in the Selected Reserve.

11 “(2) Interest rates and discount points which
 12 were negotiated between the lender and the veteran
 13 pursuant to section 3703(c)(4)(A)(i) of this title.

14 “(3) The determination of reasonable value by
 15 lenders pursuant to section 3731(f) of this title.

16 “(4) Loans that include funds for energy effi-
 17 ciency improvements pursuant to section 3710(a)(10)
 18 of this title.

19 “(5) Direct loans to Native American veterans
 20 made pursuant to subchapter V of this chapter.”.

21 (2) The table of sections at the beginning of such chap-
 22 ter is amended by inserting after the item relating to section
 23 3735 the following new item:

“3736. Reporting requirements.”.

24 (b) REPEAL OF SUPERSEDED REPORTING REQUIRE-
 25 MENTS.—The Veterans Home Loan Program Amendments

1 of 1992 (Public Law 102–547; 106 Stat. 3633) is amended
2 by striking out sections 2(c), 3(b), 8(d), 9(c), and 10(b).

3 **SEC. 202. OTHER REPORT REQUIREMENTS.**

4 (a) *REPORT ON CONSOLIDATION OF CERTAIN PRO-*
5 *GRAMS.*—*The Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall submit to*
6 *Congress, not later than March 1, 1997, a report on the*
7 *advantages and disadvantages of consolidating into one*
8 *program the following three programs:*

9 (1) *The alcohol and drug abuse contract care*
10 *program under section 1720A of title 38, United*
11 *States Code.*

12 (2) *The program to provide community-based*
13 *residential care to homeless chronically mentally ill*
14 *veterans under section 115 of the Veterans’ Benefits*
15 *and Services Act of 1988 (38 U.S.C. 1712 note).*

16 (3) *The demonstration program under section 7*
17 *of Public Law 102–54 (38 U.S.C. 1718 note).*

18 (b) *HEALTH PROFESSIONAL SCHOLARSHIP PRO-*
19 *GRAM.*—(1) *The Secretary shall submit to Congress, not*
20 *later than March 31, 1997, a report setting forth the results*
21 *of a study evaluating the operation of the health profes-*
22 *sional scholarship program under subchapter II of chapter*
23 *76 of title 38, United States Code. The study shall evaluate*
24 *the efficacy of the program with respect to recruitment and*
25 *retention of health care personnel for the Department of Vet-*

1 *erans Affairs and shall compare the costs and benefits of*
2 *the program with the costs and benefits of alternative meth-*
3 *ods of ensuring adequate recruitment and retention of such*
4 *personnel.*

5 *(2) The Secretary shall carry out the study under this*
6 *paragraph through a private contractor. The report under*
7 *paragraph (1) shall include the report of the contractor and*
8 *the comments, if any, of the Secretary on that report.*

9 *(c) ENHANCED USE LEASES.—The Secretary shall*
10 *submit to Congress, not later than March 31, 1997, a report*
11 *evaluating the operation of the program under subchapter*
12 *V of chapter 81 of title 38, United States Code.*

13 **SEC. 203. CONTRACTS FOR UTILITIES, AUDIE L. MURPHY**
14 **MEMORIAL HOSPITAL.**

15 *(a) AUTHORITY TO CONTRACT.—Subject to subsection*
16 *(b), the Secretary of Veterans Affairs may enter into con-*
17 *tracts for the provision of utilities (including steam and*
18 *chilled water) to the Audie L. Murphy Memorial Hospital*
19 *in San Antonio, Texas. Each such contract may—*

20 *(1) be for a period not to exceed 35 years;*

21 *(2) provide for the construction and operation of*
22 *a production facility on or near property under the*
23 *jurisdiction of the Secretary;*

24 *(3) require capital contributions by the parties*
25 *involved for the construction of such a facility, such*

1 *contribution to be in the form of cash, equipment, or*
2 *other in-kind contribution; and*

3 *(4) provide for a predetermined formula to com-*
4 *pute the cost of providing such utilities to the parties*
5 *for the duration of the contract.*

6 *(b) FUNDS.—A contract may be entered into under*
7 *subsection (a) only to the extent as provided for in advance*
8 *in appropriations Acts.*

9 *(c) ADDITIONAL TERMS.—The Secretary may include*
10 *in a contract under subsection (a) such additional provi-*
11 *sions as the Secretary considers necessary to secure the pro-*
12 *vision of utilities and to protect the interests of the United*
13 *States.*

In lieu of the Senate amendment to the title of the bill, amend the title so as to read: “An Act to amend title 38, United States Code, to extend the authority of the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to carry out certain programs and activities, to require certain reports from the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes.”.

Attest:

Clerk.