

110TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1642

To direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to ensure that, to the extent possible, an enhanced-use lease for a homeless housing project at the Department of Veterans Affairs facility known as the Sepulveda Ambulatory Care Center, located in North Hills, California, shall provide that such housing project shall be maintained as a sober living facility for veterans only, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 22, 2007

Mr. SHERMAN (for himself and Mr. FILNER) introduced the following bill;
which was referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs

A BILL

To direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to ensure that, to the extent possible, an enhanced-use lease for a homeless housing project at the Department of Veterans Affairs facility known as the Sepulveda Ambulatory Care Center, located in North Hills, California, shall provide that such housing project shall be maintained as a sober living facility for veterans only, 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,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “Homeless Veterans
3 Housing at Sepulveda Ambulatory Care Center Promotion
4 Act”.

5 **SEC. 2. ENHANCED USE LEASE FOR SEPULVEDA AMBULA-**
6 **TORY CARE CENTER, DEPARTMENT OF VET-**
7 **ERANS AFFAIRS.**

8 (a) REQUIREMENTS FOR LEASE.—The Secretary of
9 Veterans Affairs may enter into an enhanced-use lease
10 under section 8162 of title 38, United States Code, at the
11 Department facility known as the Sepulveda Ambulatory
12 Care Center (in this Act referred to as the “Center”), for
13 a homeless housing project, only to the extent, subject to
14 the exceptions provided in subsection (d), that any such
15 lease contains legally enforceable provisions that the ten-
16 ant under the lease shall comply with the following terms
17 and conditions:

18 (1) That the housing project located at the
19 Center shall provide housing exclusively for veterans,
20 as defined in section 101 of title 38, United States
21 Code.

22 (2) That such housing project shall be main-
23 tained, for the duration of the lease, as a sober liv-
24 ing facility.

25 (3) That the housing project shall be adequately
26 staffed with health care, counseling, and security

1 personnel, taking into account the ratio of such staff
2 to residents, in order to protect residents of the
3 housing project and of the community, and that the
4 minimum staffing ratios shall be specified in an en-
5 forceable provision of the lease.

6 (4) That the housing project shall provide hous-
7 ing to not fewer than 150 and not more than 225
8 residents.

9 (b) CONSIDERATION OF QUALIFIED ORGANIZA-
10 TIONS.—The Secretary shall consider proposals for the en-
11 hanced-use lease under subsection (a) from all organiza-
12 tions determined by the Secretary to be qualified, and
13 which are capable and willing to comply with the terms
14 and conditions described in paragraphs (1), (2), (3), and
15 (4) of subsection (a).

16 (c) SELECTION OF ORGANIZATION.—In the event
17 that there are more than one qualified organizations de-
18 scribed in subsection (b) which submit a proposal, the Sec-
19 retary shall enter into the enhanced-use lease under sub-
20 section (a) with the organization that the Secretary deter-
21 mines shall offer the best treatment services, security
22 staffing, and supervision with respect to residents of the
23 housing project. The Secretary shall give preference to en-
24 tering into such a lease with a qualified organization which

1 has the most experience nationwide in providing housing
2 and treatment for homeless veterans.

3 (d) EXCEPTIONS.—If the Secretary, after a diligent
4 search, is unable to enter into an enhanced-use lease with
5 a qualified organization containing all of the terms and
6 conditions specified in subsection (a) on or before a date
7 that is 12 months after the date of the enactment of this
8 Act, the Secretary—

9 (1) may enter into such a lease with a qualified
10 organization providing that the housing project shall
11 be exclusively for veterans during the duration of the
12 lease, with preference given to an organization which
13 housing project shall provide housing to the highest
14 number of residents not exceeding 225; and

15 (2) if, after a diligent search, the Secretary is
16 unable to enter into such a lease with a qualified or-
17 ganization that provides that the housing project
18 shall be exclusively for veterans during the duration
19 of the lease, may enter into such a lease with an or-
20 ganization providing that not less than 80 percent of
21 the residents of the housing project shall be veterans
22 throughout the duration of the lease.

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