

110TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2699

To amend title 38, United States Code, to repeal authority for adjustments to per diem payments to homeless veterans service centers for receipt of other sources of income, to extend authorities for certain programs to benefit homeless veterans, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 13, 2007

Mr. PATRICK J. MURPHY of Pennsylvania (for himself, Mr. WALZ of Minnesota, and Mr. ARCURI) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs

A BILL

To amend title 38, United States Code, to repeal authority for adjustments to per diem payments to homeless veterans service centers for receipt of other sources of income, to extend authorities for certain programs to benefit homeless 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,*

1 **SECTION 1. REPEAL OF AUTHORITY FOR ADJUSTMENTS TO**
2 **PER DIEM PAYMENTS TO HOMELESS VET-**
3 **ERANS SERVICE CENTERS FOR RECEIPT OF**
4 **OTHER SOURCES OF INCOME.**

5 Section 2012(a)(2) of title 38, United States Code,
6 is amended—

7 (1) by striking subparagraphs (B), (C), and
8 (D); and

9 (2) in subparagraph (A)—

10 (A) by striking “The rate” and inserting
11 “Except as provided in subparagraph (B), the
12 rate”;

13 (B) by striking “adjusted by the Secretary
14 under subparagraph (B)”;

15 (C) by designating the second sentence as
16 subparagraph (B) and indenting the margin of
17 such subparagraph, as so designated, two ems
18 from the left margin.

19 **SEC. 2. DEMONSTRATION PROGRAM ON PREVENTING VET-**
20 **ERANS AT-RISK OF HOMELESSNESS FROM BE-**
21 **COMING HOMELESS.**

22 (a) **DEMONSTRATION PROGRAM.**—The Secretary of
23 Veterans Affairs shall carry out (subject to the availability
24 of appropriations) a demonstration program for the pur-
25 pose of—

1 (1) identifying members of the Armed Forces
2 on active duty who are at risk of becoming homeless
3 after they are discharged or released from active
4 duty; and

5 (2) providing referral, counseling, and sup-
6 portive services, as appropriate, to help prevent such
7 members, upon becoming veterans, from becoming
8 homeless.

9 (b) PROGRAM LOCATIONS.—The Secretary shall
10 carry out the demonstration program in at least three lo-
11 cations.

12 (c) IDENTIFICATION CRITERIA.—In developing and
13 implementing the criteria to identify members of the
14 Armed Forces, who upon becoming veterans, are at-risk
15 of becoming homeless, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs
16 shall consult with the Secretary of Defense and such other
17 officials and experts as the Secretary considers appro-
18 priate.

19 (d) CONTRACTS.—The Secretary of Veterans Affairs
20 may enter into contracts to provide the referral, coun-
21 seling, and supportive services required under the dem-
22 onstration program with entities or organizations that
23 meet such requirements as the Secretary may establish.

24 (e) SUNSET.—The authority of the Secretary under
25 subsection (a) shall expire on September 30, 2011.

1 (f) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
2 are authorized to be appropriated \$2,000,000 for the pur-
3 pose of carrying out the provisions of this section.

4 **SEC. 3. EXPANSION AND EXTENSION OF AUTHORITY FOR**
5 **PROGRAM OF REFERRAL AND COUNSELING**
6 **SERVICES FOR AT-RISK VETERANS**
7 **TRANSITIONING FROM CERTAIN INSTITU-**
8 **TIONS.**

9 (a) PROGRAM AUTHORITY.—Subsection (a) of section
10 2023 of title 38, United States Code, is amended by strik-
11 ing “a demonstration program for the purpose of deter-
12 mining the costs and benefits of providing” and inserting
13 “a program of”.

14 (b) SCOPE OF PROGRAM.—Subsection (b) of such
15 section is amended—

16 (1) by striking “DEMONSTRATION” in the sub-
17 section heading;

18 (2) by striking “demonstration”; and

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

21 (c) EXTENSION OF AUTHORITY.—Subsection (d) of
22 such section is amended by striking “shall cease” and all
23 that follows and inserting “shall cease on September 30,
24 2011.”.

25 (d) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

1 (1) Subsection (c)(1) of such section is amend-
2 ed by striking “demonstration”.

3 (2) The heading of such section is amended to
4 read as follows:

5 **“§ 2023. Referral and counseling services: veterans at**
6 **risk of homelessness who are**
7 **transitioning from certain institutions”.**

8 (3) Section 2022(f)(2)(C) of such title is
9 amended by striking “demonstration”.

10 (e) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections
11 at the beginning of chapter 20 of such title is amended
12 by striking the item relating to section 2023 and inserting
13 the following:

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

14 **SEC. 4. AVAILABILITY OF GRANT FUNDS TO SERVICE CEN-**
15 **TERS FOR PERSONNEL.**

16 Section 2011 of title 38, United States Code, is
17 amended by adding at the end the following new sub-
18 section:

19 “(i) AVAILABILITY OF GRANT FUNDS FOR SERVICE
20 CENTER PERSONNEL.—A grant under this section for a
21 service center for homeless veterans may be used to pro-
22 vide funding for staff as necessary in order for the center
23 to meet the service availability requirements of subsection
24 (g)(1).”.

1 **SEC. 5. 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
6 States Code, is amended to read as follows:

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

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