

**AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE
TO H.R. 3848
OFFERED BY MR. BOST OF ILLINOIS**

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

1 SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

2 This Act may be cited as the “Housing our Military
3 Veterans Effectively Act of 2023” or the “HOME Act of
4 2023”.

**5 SEC. 2. PER DIEM PAYMENTS PROVIDED BY THE SEC-
6 RETARY OF VETERANS AFFAIRS FOR SERV-
7 ICES FURNISHED TO HOMELESS VETERANS.**

8 Section 2012 of title 38, United States Code, is
9 amended—

10 (1) in subsection (a)—

11 (A) in paragraph (2)(B)—

12 (i) in clause (i)(II)(aa)(BB), by strik-
13 ing “115 percent” and inserting “133 per-
14 cent”; and

15 (ii) by adding at the end the fol-
16 lowing:

17 “(iii) During each of fiscal years 2024 through 2026,
18 the Secretary may waive the maximum rate for per diem

1 payments under clause (i)(II)(aa)(BB) or (ii) and, subject
2 to the availability of appropriations, provide such pay-
3 ments at a rate that does not exceed 200 percent of the
4 rate authorized for State homes for domiciliary care under
5 subsection (a)(1)(A) of section 1741 of this title, as the
6 Secretary may increase from time to time under sub-
7 section (c) of that section if the Secretary notifies Con-
8 gress of such waiver.

9 “(iv) The Secretary may not, pursuant to clause (iii),
10 waive the maximum rate described in such clause for more
11 than 50 percent of all grant recipients and eligible entities
12 in a fiscal year.”; and

13 (B) by adding at the end the following new
14 paragraph:

15 “(4) The Secretary may not provide more than
16 12,000 per diem payments under this section in a fiscal
17 year.”; and

18 (2) by adding at the end the following new sub-
19 section:

20 “(f) REPORTS REQUIRED.—Not later than 90 days
21 after the date of the enactment of the HOME Act of 2023,
22 and not less frequently than twice each year thereafter,
23 the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Veterans’
24 Affairs of the Senate and the Committee on Veterans’ Af-
25 fairs of the House of Representatives a report on the rate

1 for per diem payments under this section that includes,
2 for each Veterans Integrated Service Network of the De-
3 partment, the following data:

4 “(1) The average rate for such a payment.

5 “(2) A list of locations where the rate for such
6 a payment is within 10 percent of the maximum rate
7 for such a payment authorized under this section.

8 “(3) The average length of stay by a veteran
9 participating in a program described in section
10 2012(a) of this title.”.

11 **SEC. 3. AUTHORIZATION FOR SECRETARY OF VETERANS**
12 **AFFAIRS TO USE OF CERTAIN FUNDS FOR IM-**
13 **PROVED FLEXIBILITY IN ASSISTANCE TO**
14 **HOMELESS VETERANS.**

15 (a) USE OF FUNDS.—The Secretary of Veterans Af-
16 fairs may use amounts appropriated or otherwise made
17 available to the Department of Veterans Affairs to carry
18 out section 2011, 2012, 2031, or 2061 of title 38, United
19 States Code, to provide to a covered veteran, as the Sec-
20 retary determines necessary—

21 (1) food, shelter, clothing, blankets, and hy-
22 giene items required for the safety and survival of
23 the veteran;

24 (2) transportation required to support the sta-
25 bility and health of the veteran for appointments

1 with service providers, the conduct of housing
2 searches, and the obtainment of food and supplies;
3 and

4 (3) tablets, smartphones, disposable phones,
5 and related service plans required to support the
6 stability and health of the veteran through the main-
7 tenance of contact with service providers, prospective
8 landlords, and family members.

9 (b) HOMELESS VETERANS ON DEPARTMENT OF VET-
10 ERANS AFFAIRS LAND.—

11 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may collabo-
12 rate, to the extent practicable, with one or more or-
13 ganizations to manage the use of land of the Depart-
14 ment of Veterans Affairs for homeless veterans for
15 living and sleeping.

16 (2) FORMS OF COLLABORATION.—Collaboration
17 under paragraph (1) may include the provision by ei-
18 ther the Secretary or the head of the organization
19 concerned of food services and security for property,
20 buildings, and other facilities owned or controlled by
21 the Department of Veterans Affairs.

22 (c) REPORT REQUIRED.—Not later than six months
23 after the date of the enactment of this Act, and every six
24 months thereafter until the date specified in subsection
25 (d), the Secretary shall submit to Congress a report that

1 includes, with respect to the period covered by such re-
2 port—

3 (1) a statement, disaggregated by each medical
4 center of the Department of Veterans Affairs, of the
5 amount of funds under this section—

6 (A) each such medical center requested
7 from the Secretary; and

8 (B) to which the Secretary provided each
9 such medical center;

10 (2) data, disaggregated by each such medical
11 center, relating to how each such medical center
12 used amounts provided by the Secretary under this
13 section;

14 (3) the number of covered veterans to which the
15 Secretary provided assistance under this section;

16 (4) the total amount of assistance the Secretary
17 provided to covered veterans pursuant to subsection
18 (a)(3) for communications equipment, broken down
19 by the type of equipment provided;

20 (5) the total amount of assistance the Secretary
21 provided covered veterans pursuant to subsection
22 (a)(2) for ridesharing;

23 (6) the number of covered veterans who re-
24 ceived such assistance; and

1 (7) a description, for each rideshare used by a
2 covered veteran with such assistance, of the reasons
3 such covered veteran used such rideshare.

4 (8) the number of covered veterans who lived or
5 slept on Department land;

6 (9) the amount of funds used to make available
7 Department land for covered veterans to live and
8 sleep;

9 (10) the number of Department employees
10 whose primary responsibilities involved providing
11 services for covered veterans living or sleeping on
12 Department land;

13 (11) the average length of time a covered vet-
14 eran lived or slept on Department land, and

15 (12) the period of time the Secretary expects
16 Department land will be made available for covered
17 veterans to live and sleep.

18 (d) SUNSET.—The authority under this section shall
19 terminate on September 30, 2024.

20 (e) DEFINITIONS.—In this section, the term “covered
21 veteran” means—

22 (1) a homeless veteran; and

23 (2) a veteran participating in the program car-
24 ried out under section 8(o)(19) of the United States
25 Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437f(o)(19)).

1 **SEC. 4. MODIFICATION OF CERTAIN HOUSING LOAN FEES.**

2 The loan fee table in section 3729(b)(2) of title 38,
3 United States Code, is amended by striking “November
4 14, 2031” each place it appears and inserting “May 18,
5 2032”.

