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(Original Signature of Member)

117TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. _____

To amend title 38, United States Code, to permanently authorize the use of certain funds to improve flexibility in the provision of assistance to homeless veterans, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

M. _____ introduced the following bill; which was referred to the
Committee on _____

A BILL

To amend title 38, United States Code, to permanently authorize the use of certain funds to improve flexibility in the provision of assistance to 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,*

3 **SECTION 1. AUTHORIZATION OF USE OF CERTAIN FUNDS**
4 **FOR IMPROVED FLEXIBILITY IN ASSISTANCE**
5 **TO HOMELESS VETERANS.**

6 Subtitle VII of chapter 20 of title 38, United States
7 Code, is amended by adding at the end the following new

1 section (and conforming the table of sections at the begin-
2 ning of such chapter accordingly):

3 **“§ 2068. Flexibility in provision of assistance to home-**
4 **less veterans**

5 “(a) USE OF FUNDS.—The Secretary of Veterans Af-
6 fairs may use amounts appropriated or otherwise made
7 available to the Department of Veterans Affairs to carry
8 out sections 2011, 2012, 2031, or 2061 of this chapter
9 to provide to homeless veterans and veterans participating
10 in the program carried out under section 8(o)(19) of the
11 United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C.
12 1437f(o)(19)), as the Secretary determines necessary, the
13 following:

14 “(1) Assistance required for the safety and sur-
15 vival of the veteran (such as food, shelter, clothing,
16 blankets, and hygiene items).

17 “(2) Transportation required to support the
18 stability and health of the veteran (such as transpor-
19 tation for appointments with service providers, the
20 conduct of housing searches, and the obtainment of
21 food and supplies).

22 “(3) Communications equipment and services
23 (such as tablets, smartphones, disposable phones,
24 and related service plans) required to support the
25 stability and health of the veteran (such as through

1 the maintenance of contact with service providers,
2 prospective landlords, and family members).

3 “(4) Such other assistance as the Secretary de-
4 termines necessary.

5 “(b) HOMELESS VETERANS ON DEPARTMENT
6 LAND.—(1) The Secretary may collaborate, to the extent
7 practicable, with one or more organizations to manage the
8 use of land of the Department for homeless veterans for
9 living and sleeping.

10 “(2) Collaboration under paragraph (1) may include
11 the provision by either the Secretary or the head of the
12 organization concerned of food services and security for
13 property, buildings, and other facilities owned or con-
14 trolled by the Department.”.