

118TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 645

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

JANUARY 31, 2023

Mrs. CHERFILUS-McCORMICK (for herself, Mr. TAKANO, Ms. CASTOR of Florida, Ms. WILSON of Florida, Mr. DELUZIO, Mr. CASE, Ms. TLAIB, Ms. KAMLAGER-DOVE, Ms. NORTON, and Ms. BROWNLEY) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs

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. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Healthy Foundations
5 for Homeless Veterans Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. AUTHORIZATION OF USE OF CERTAIN FUNDS FOR**
2 **IMPROVED FLEXIBILITY IN ASSISTANCE TO**
3 **HOMELESS VETERANS.**

4 Subtitle VII of chapter 20 of title 38, United States
5 Code, is amended by adding at the end the following new
6 section (and conforming the table of sections at the begin-
7 ning of such chapter accordingly):

8 **“§ 2068. Flexibility in provision of assistance to home-**
9 **less veterans**

10 “(a) USE OF FUNDS.—The Secretary of Veterans Af-
11 fairs may use amounts appropriated or otherwise made
12 available to the Department of Veterans Affairs to carry
13 out section 2011, 2012, 2031, or 2061 of this chapter to
14 provide to homeless veterans and veterans participating in
15 the program carried out under section 8(o)(19) of the
16 United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C.
17 1437f(o)(19)), as the Secretary determines necessary, the
18 following:

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

22 “(2) Transportation required to support the
23 stability and health of the veteran (such as transpor-
24 tation for appointments with service providers, the
25 conduct of housing searches, and the obtainment of
26 food and supplies).

1 “(3) Communications equipment and services
2 (such as tablets, smartphones, disposable phones,
3 and related service plans) required to support the
4 stability and health of the veteran (such as through
5 the maintenance of contact with service providers,
6 prospective landlords, and family members).

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

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

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

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