

# Union Calendar No. 152

118TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 3848

**[Report No. 118–189]**

To make certain improvements in the laws administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs relating to homelessness, and for other purposes.

---

## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 6, 2023

Mrs. CHAVEZ-DEREMER (for herself and Mr. BOST) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs

SEPTEMBER 8, 2023

Additional sponsors: Mr. BILIRAKIS, Mrs. CAMMACK, and Mr. BARR

SEPTEMBER 8, 2023

Reported with an amendment, committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union, and ordered to be printed

[Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert the part printed in *italie*]

[For text of introduced bill, see copy of bill as introduced on June 6, 2023]

# **A BILL**

To make certain improvements in the laws administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs relating to homelessness, 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 “Housing our Military*  
 5 *Veterans Effectively Act of 2023” or the “HOME Act of*  
 6 *2023”.*

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

10 *Section 2012 of title 38, United States Code, is amend-*  
 11 *ed—*

12 *(1) in subsection (a)—*

13 *(A) in paragraph (2)(B)—*

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

17 *(ii) by adding at the end the following:*

18 *“(iii) During each of fiscal years 2024 through 2026,*  
 19 *the Secretary may waive the maximum rate for per diem*  
 20 *payments under clause (i)(II)(aa)(BB) or (ii) and, subject*  
 21 *to the availability of appropriations, provide such pay-*  
 22 *ments at a rate that does not exceed 200 percent of the rate*  
 23 *authorized for State homes for domiciliary care under sub-*  
 24 *section (a)(1)(A) of section 1741 of this title, as the Sec-*  
 25 *retary may increase from time to time under subsection (c)*

1 *of that section if the Secretary notifies Congress of such*  
2 *waiver.*

3 “(iv) *The Secretary may not, pursuant to clause (iii),*  
4 *waive the maximum rate described in such clause for more*  
5 *than 50 percent of all grant recipients and eligible entities*  
6 *in a fiscal year.’’; and*

7 (B) *by adding at the end the following new*  
8 *paragraph:*

9 “(4) *The Secretary may not provide more than 12,000*  
10 *per diem payments under this section in a fiscal year.’’;*  
11 *and*

12 (2) *by adding at the end the following new sub-*  
13 *section:*

14 “(f) *REPORTS REQUIRED.—Not later than 90 days*  
15 *after the date of the enactment of the HOME Act of 2023,*  
16 *and not less frequently than twice each year thereafter, the*  
17 *Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Veterans’ Af-*  
18 *fairs of the Senate and the Committee on Veterans’ Affairs*  
19 *of the House of Representatives a report on the rate for per*  
20 *diem payments under this section that includes, for each*  
21 *Veterans Integrated Service Network of the Department, the*  
22 *following data:*

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

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

4           “(3) *The average length of stay by a veteran par-*  
 5           *ticipating in a program described in section 2012(a)*  
 6           *of this title.”.*

7   **SEC. 3. AUTHORIZATION FOR SECRETARY OF VETERANS AF-**  
 8                   **FAIRS TO USE OF CERTAIN FUNDS FOR IM-**  
 9                   **PROVED FLEXIBILITY IN ASSISTANCE TO**  
 10                  **HOMELESS VETERANS.**

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

17           (1) *food, shelter, clothing, blankets, and hygiene*  
 18           *items required for the safety and survival of the vet-*  
 19           *eran;*

20           (2) *transportation required to support the sta-*  
 21           *bility and health of the veteran for appointments with*  
 22           *service providers, the conduct of housing searches, and*  
 23           *the obtainment of food and supplies; and*

24           (3) *tablets, smartphones, disposable phones, and*  
 25           *related service plans required to support the stability*

1        *and health of the veteran through the maintenance of*  
2        *contact with service providers, prospective landlords,*  
3        *and family members.*

4        *(b) HOMELESS VETERANS ON DEPARTMENT OF VET-*  
5        *ERANS AFFAIRS LAND.—*

6            *(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may collabo-*  
7        *rate, to the extent practicable, with one or more orga-*  
8        *nizations to manage the use of land of the Depart-*  
9        *ment of Veterans Affairs for homeless veterans for liv-*  
10       *ing and sleeping.*

11           *(2) FORMS OF COLLABORATION.—Collaboration*  
12       *under paragraph (1) may include the provision by ei-*  
13       *ther the Secretary or the head of the organization con-*  
14       *cerned of food services and security for property,*  
15       *buildings, and other facilities owned or controlled by*  
16       *the Department of Veterans Affairs.*

17       *(c) REPORT REQUIRED.—Not later than six months*  
18       *after the date of the enactment of this Act, and every six*  
19       *months thereafter until the date specified in subsection (d),*  
20       *the Secretary shall submit to Congress a report that in-*  
21       *cludes, with respect to the period covered by such report—*

22           *(1) a statement, disaggregated by each medical*  
23       *center of the Department of Veterans Affairs, of the*  
24       *amount of funds under this section—*

1           (A) each such medical center requested from  
2           the Secretary; and

3           (B) to which the Secretary provided each  
4           such medical center;

5           (2) data, disaggregated by each such medical  
6           center, relating to how each such medical center used  
7           amounts provided by the Secretary under this section;

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

10          (4) the total amount of assistance the Secretary  
11          provided to covered veterans pursuant to subsection  
12          (a)(3) for communications equipment, broken down  
13          by the type of equipment provided;

14          (5) the total amount of assistance the Secretary  
15          provided covered veterans pursuant to subsection  
16          (a)(2) for ridesharing;

17          (6) the number of covered veterans who received  
18          such assistance; and

19          (7) a description, for each rideshare used by a  
20          covered veteran with such assistance, of the reasons  
21          such covered veteran used such rideshare.

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

1           (9) *the amount of funds used to make available*  
 2           *Department land for covered veterans to live and*  
 3           *sleep;*

4           (10) *the number of Department employees whose*  
 5           *primary responsibilities involved providing services*  
 6           *for covered veterans living or sleeping on Department*  
 7           *land;*

8           (11) *the average length of time a covered veteran*  
 9           *lived or slept on Department land, and*

10          (12) *the period of time the Secretary expects De-*  
 11          *partment land will be made available for covered vet-*  
 12          *erans to live and sleep.*

13          (d) *SUNSET.*—*The authority under this section shall*  
 14          *terminate on September 30, 2024.*

15          (e) *DEFINITIONS.*—*In this section, the term “covered*  
 16          *veteran” means—*

17                 (1) *a homeless veteran; and*

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

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

22                 *The loan fee table in section 3729(b)(2) of title 38,*  
 23                 *United States Code, is amended by striking “November 14,*  
 24                 *2031” each place it appears and inserting “May 18, 2032”.*





Union Calendar No. 152

118TH CONGRESS  
1ST Session

**H. R. 3848**

[Report No. 118-189]

**A BILL**

To make certain improvements in the laws administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs relating to homelessness, and for other purposes.

SEPTEMBER 8, 2023

Reported with an amendment, committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union, and ordered to be printed