

112TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 5861

To direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs and the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development to establish a grant pilot program to provide housing to elderly homeless veterans.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 30, 2012

Mr. FILNER introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Financial Services, and in addition to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

A BILL

To direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs and the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development to establish a grant pilot program to provide housing to elderly homeless veterans.

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. ELDERLY HOMELESS VETERANS HOUSING**
4 **GRANT PILOT PROGRAM.**

5 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary of Veterans
6 Affairs and the Secretary of Housing and Urban Develop-
7 ment shall jointly establish a pilot program to award

1 grants to nonprofit organizations to provide homeless vet-
2 erans with non-transitional housing.

3 (b) ELIGIBLE ORGANIZATION.—

4 (1) NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION.—The Secre-
5 taries may award two grants under this section to
6 nonprofit organizations that provide housing to
7 homeless veterans or assist homeless veterans to find
8 housing.

9 (2) LOCATIONS.—In selecting the nonprofit or-
10 ganizations under paragraph (1), the Secretaries
11 shall ensure that such organizations operate in sepa-
12 rate geographical locations.

13 (3) APPLICATION.—To be eligible for a grant
14 under this section, a nonprofit organization shall
15 submit to the Secretaries an application at such
16 time, in such manner, and containing such informa-
17 tion as the Secretaries may require.

18 (c) NUMBER AND AMOUNT OF GRANT.—

19 (1) NUMBER.—The Secretaries—

20 (A) may award two grants under this sec-
21 tion; and

22 (B) may not award more than one grant to
23 a single nonprofit organization.

24 (2) AMOUNT.—A grant awarded under this sec-
25 tion may not exceed \$25,000,000.

1 (d) USE OF GRANT.—

2 (1) IN GENERAL.—A nonprofit organization
3 may use a grant awarded under this section to—

4 (A) purchase real property within a single
5 geographical area to be used to provide up to
6 200 eligible homeless veterans with non-transi-
7 tional housing; and

8 (B) refurbish or renovate such property.

9 (2) ELIGIBLE HOMELESS VETERANS.—A home-
10 less veteran is eligible for housing provided pursuant
11 to this section if the Secretary of Veterans Affairs
12 determines that the homeless veteran—

13 (A) has—

14 (i) been continuously homeless for a
15 year or more; or

16 (ii) during the last three years, had at
17 least four separate, distinct, and sustained
18 periods during which the veteran lived or
19 resided on the streets, in an emergency
20 shelter for homeless persons, or a combina-
21 tion of both;

22 (B) has a condition that limits the vet-
23 eran's ability to work or perform activities of
24 daily living, including conditions related to—

- 1 (i) a diagnosable substance abuse dis-
2 order;
3 (ii) a serious mental illness;
4 (iii) a developmental disability; or
5 (iv) a chronic physical illness or dis-
6 ability; and
7 (C) has attained the age of 55.

8 (e) CASE MANAGEMENT.—

9 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Veterans
10 Affairs shall provide case management for homeless
11 veterans who receive housing assistance pursuant to
12 this section. The Secretary shall maintain a suffi-
13 cient number of caseworkers to ensure that the ratio
14 of such homeless veterans to caseworkers does not
15 exceed 25 to 1.

16 (2) PROVISION.—In carrying out paragraph
17 (1), the Secretary shall allow the non-profit organi-
18 zation awarded a grant under this section to provide
19 the case management under paragraph (1) if the
20 non-profit organization elects to provide such case
21 management.

22 (f) REPORT.—Not later than 180 days after the date
23 on which the pilot grant program terminates pursuant to
24 subsection (i), the Secretaries shall submit to the Commit-
25 tees on Veterans' Affairs of the Senate and House of Rep-

1 representatives a report on the pilot grant program that in-
2 cludes—

3 (1) the number of veterans served under the
4 program;

5 (2) the types of services offered under the pro-
6 gram to such veterans;

7 (3) the amount of money spent under the pro-
8 gram on each such veteran;

9 (4) a recommendation as to the feasibility and
10 advisability of continuing the program; and

11 (5) any other information the Secretaries con-
12 sider appropriate.

13 (g) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is
14 authorized to be appropriated to the Secretaries to carry
15 out this section \$50,000,000.

16 (h) HOMELESS VETERAN DEFINED.—In this section,
17 the term “homeless veteran” means a veteran who is
18 homeless (as that term is defined in section 103(a) of the
19 McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (42 U.S.C.
20 11302(a))).

21 (i) TERMINATION.—The pilot grant program estab-
22 lished under subsection (a) shall terminate on the date
23 that is two years after the date on which the Secretaries
24 award a grant under such subsection.

○