

The bill (S. 287), as amended, was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, was read the third time, and passed, as follows:

S. 287

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Helping Homeless Veterans Act of 2013”.

SEC. 2. EXPANSION OF DEFINITION OF HOMELESS VETERAN FOR PURPOSES OF BENEFITS UNDER THE LAWS ADMINISTERED BY THE SECRETARY OF VETERANS AFFAIRS.

Section 2002(1) of title 38, United States Code, is amended by striking “in section 103(a) of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 11302(a))” and inserting “in subsection (a) or (b) of section 103 of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 11302)”.

SEC. 3. IMPROVEMENTS TO GRANT PROGRAM FOR COMPREHENSIVE SERVICE PROGRAMS FOR HOMELESS VETERANS.

(a) MODIFICATION OF AUTHORITY TO PROVIDE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT GRANTS FOR PROGRAMS THAT ASSIST HOMELESS VETERANS.—Subsection (a) of section 2011 of title 38, United States Code, is amended, in the matter before paragraph (1)—

(1) by striking “or modifying” and inserting “, modifying, or maintaining”; and

(2) by inserting “privately, safely, and securely,” before “the following”.

(b) REQUIREMENT THAT RECIPIENTS OF GRANTS MEET PHYSICAL PRIVACY, SAFETY, AND SECURITY NEEDS OF HOMELESS VETERANS.—Subsection (f) of such section is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

“(6) To meet the physical privacy, safety, and security needs of homeless veterans receiving services through the project.”.

SEC. 4. INCREASED PER DIEM PAYMENTS FOR TRANSITIONAL HOUSING ASSISTANCE THAT BECOMES PERMANENT HOUSING FOR HOMELESS VETERANS.

Section 2012(a)(2) of title 38, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by redesignating subparagraphs (B) through (D) as subparagraphs (C) through (E), respectively;

(2) in subparagraph (C), as redesignated, by striking “in subparagraph (D)” and inserting “in subparagraph (E)”;

(3) in subparagraph (D), as redesignated, by striking “under subparagraph (B)” and inserting “under subparagraph (C)”;

(4) in subparagraph (E), as redesignated, by striking “in subparagraphs (B) and (C)” and inserting “in subparagraphs (C) and (D)”;

and

(5) in subparagraph (A)—

(A) by striking “The rate” and inserting “Except as otherwise provided in subparagraph (B), the rate”; and

(B) by striking “under subparagraph (B)” and all that follows through the end and inserting the following: “under subparagraph (C).”

“(B)(i) Except as provided in clause (ii), in no case may the rate determined under this paragraph exceed the rate authorized for State homes for domiciliary care under subsection (a)(1)(A) of section 1741 of this title, as the Secretary may increase from time to time under subsection (c) of that section.

“(ii) In the case of services furnished to a homeless veteran who is placed in housing that will become permanent housing for the veteran upon termination of the furnishing of such services to such veteran, the maximum rate of per diem authorized under this

section is 150 percent of the rate described in clause (i).”.

SEC. 5. AUTHORIZATION OF PER DIEM PAYMENTS FOR FURNISHING CARE TO DEPENDENTS OF CERTAIN HOMELESS VETERANS.

Subsection (a) of section 2012 of title 38, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

“(4) Services for which a recipient of a grant under section 2011 of this title (or an entity described in paragraph (1)) may receive per diem payments under this subsection may include furnishing care for a dependent of a homeless veteran who is under the care of such homeless veteran while such homeless veteran receives services from the grant recipient (or entity).”.

SEC. 6. REQUIREMENT FOR DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS TO ASSESS COMPREHENSIVE SERVICE PROGRAMS FOR HOMELESS VETERANS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall assess and measure the capacity of programs for which entities receive grants under section 2011 of title 38, United States Code, or per diem payments under section 2012 or 2061 of such title.

(b) ASSESSMENT AT NATIONAL AND LOCAL LEVELS.—In assessing and measuring under subsection (a), the Secretary shall develop and use tools to examine the capacity of programs described in such subsection at both the national and local level in order to assess the following:

(1) Whether sufficient capacity exists to meet the needs of homeless veterans in each geographic area.

(2) Whether existing capacity meets the needs of the subpopulations of homeless veterans located in each geographic area.

(3) The amount of capacity that recipients of grants under sections 2011 and 2061 and per diem payments under section 2012 of such title have to provide services for which the recipients are eligible to receive per diem under section 2012(a)(2)(B)(ii) of title 38, United States Code, as added by section 4(5)(B).

(c) USE OF INFORMATION.—The Secretary shall use the information collected under this section as follows:

(1) To set specific goals to ensure that programs described in subsection (a) are effectively serving the needs of homeless veterans.

(2) To assess whether programs described in subsection (a) are meeting goals set under paragraph (1).

(3) To inform funding allocations for programs described in subsection (a).

(4) To improve the referral of homeless veterans to programs described in subsection (a).

(d) REPORT.—Not later than 180 days after the date on which the assessment required by subsection (b) is completed, the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs of the Senate and the Committee on Veterans' Affairs of the House of Representatives a report on such assessment and such recommendations for legislative and administrative action as the Secretary may have to improve the programs and per diem payments described in subsection (a).

SEC. 7. EXPANSION OF DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS AUTHORITY TO PROVIDE DENTAL CARE TO HOMELESS VETERANS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 2062(b) of title 38, United States Code, is amended to read as follows:

“(b) ELIGIBLE VETERANS.—(1) Subsection (a) applies to a veteran who—

“(A) is enrolled for care under section 1705(a) of this title; and

“(B) for a period of 60 consecutive days, is receiving—

“(i) assistance under section 8(o) of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437f(o)); or

“(ii) care (directly or by contract) in any of the following settings:

“(I) A domiciliary under section 1710 of this title.

“(II) A therapeutic residence under section 2032 of this title.

“(III) Community residential care coordinated by the Secretary under section 1730 of this title.

“(IV) A setting for which the Secretary provides funds for a grant and per diem provider.

“(V) A setting—

“(aa) in which the veteran is receiving transitional housing assistance;

“(bb) for which funding is not provided for transitional housing assistance under the laws administered by the Secretary;

“(cc) for which the Secretary receives verification from the provider of care that the veteran is receiving care for a period of 60 consecutive days; and

“(dd) from which the Secretary determines that the veteran cannot reasonably access comparable dental services at no cost and in a reasonable period of time.

“(2) For purposes of paragraph (1), in determining whether a veteran has received assistance or care for a period of 60 consecutive days, the Secretary may disregard breaks in the continuity of assistance or care for which the veteran is not responsible.”.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by subsection (a) shall take effect on the date that is one year after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 8. PARTNERSHIPS WITH PUBLIC AND PRIVATE ENTITIES TO PROVIDE LEGAL SERVICES TO HOMELESS VETERANS AND VETERANS AT RISK OF HOMELESSNESS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 20 of title 38, United States Code, is amended by inserting after section 2022 the following new section:

The title was amended so as to read:

“A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to improve assistance to homeless veterans, and for other purposes.”.

CONDEMNING THE NAIROBI TERRORIST ATTACK

Ms. HIRONO. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Calendar No. 234, S. Res. 268.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The bill clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 268) condemning the September 2013 terrorist attack at the Westgate Mall in Nairobi, Kenya, and reaffirming United States support for the people and Government of Kenya, and for other purposes.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Ms. HIRONO. I further ask that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table, with no intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 268) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in the RECORD of October 11, 2013, under "Submitted Resolutions.")

ORDERS FOR THURSDAY,
NOVEMBER 7, 2013

Ms. HIRONO. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn until 10 a.m. on Thursday, November 7, 2013; that following the prayer and pledge, the morning hour be deemed expired, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, and the

time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day; that following any leader remarks, the Senate resume consideration of S. 815, the Employee Non-Discrimination Act, under the previous order; and that the first-degree filing deadline be 10:30 a.m. and the second-degree filing deadline be 11:30 a.m.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

PROGRAM

Ms. HIRONO. Mr. President, there will be two rollcall votes at 11:45 a.m.

tomorrow and a third rollcall vote at 1:45 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 10 A.M.
TOMORROW

Ms. HIRONO. Mr. President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask unanimous consent that it adjourn under the previous order.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 6:18 p.m., adjourned until Thursday, November 7, 2013, at 10 a.m.