

Summary of H.R. 4810 End Veteran Homelessness Act of 2010

Title: To amend title 38, United States Code, to make certain improvements in the services provided for homeless veterans under the laws administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs.

Mr. Filner of California introduced H.R. 4810 on March 10, 2010.

H.R. 4810 would:

1. Increase the annual authorization of appropriations from \$150 million to \$200 million for the VA to carry out comprehensive service programs for homeless veterans.
2. Change the payments for furnishing services to homeless veterans from daily cost of care to an annual cost of services.
3. Allow the VA to make payments for furnishing services to homeless veterans on a quarterly basis, and creates a quarterly reconciliation process where adjustments are made to increase or decrease payments.
4. Allow the VA to annually adjust the rate of payments for furnishing services to homeless veterans to reflect anticipated changes in the cost of providing services and to make geographic adjustments.
5. Require each VA medical center that provides treatment and services under the HUD-VASH program to employ or provide one or more housing specialists to conduct landlord outreach. Housing specialists may include peer specialists, who were formerly homeless veterans.
6. Define landlord outreach activities of the housing specialists to include encouraging and facilitating the landlords' participation in the HUD-VASH program, mediating disputes between the veterans and the landlords; and establishing and maintaining a list of available rental units.
7. Ensure that the VA work with the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to help homeless veterans access HUD's Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing Program for assistance with basic essentials, security deposits for rental units, and for payments of the first month's rent.
8. Extend the supportive services program for very low-income veteran families in permanent housing in FY 2012 and beyond, and provide for a phased-in increase in the authorization for appropriations to \$100 million per year.
9. Ensure that the VA's existing authority to advertise in national media for homeless veterans now includes new language directing the VA to focus on homeless women veterans and homeless veterans with children.

Cost: CBO estimates the cost to be \$579 million over five years subject to appropriation.

Legislative History:

Mar. 10, 2010: Ordered reported by the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

Mar. 22, 2010: Reported, as amended, H. Rept. 111-449.

Mar. 22, 2010: Passed the House by the Yeas and Nays: 413-0 (Roll No. 170)

Includes provisions of H.R. 2504; H.R. 2559, as amended; H.R. 2735, as amended; and H.R. 3906.