

CORONAVIRUS AID, RELIEF, AND ECONOMIC SECURITY ACT

Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies

MilCon/VA Title X: \$19.572 billion.

Department of Veterans Affairs: \$19.569 billion

Armed Forces Retirement Home: \$2.8 million

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

Medical Services

The Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act provides **\$14.4 billion** to support the surge in demand for healthcare services at VA hospitals and clinics. This includes the purchase of medical equipment, coronavirus test kits, personal protective equipment, and pharmacy needs.

Additional needs addressed within the total amount provided include:

- Resources to allow VA to expand telehealth visits and to offer support to more providers, including increased tele-ICU and teleradiology capabilities, so veterans will not suffer a lapse in care and providers can continue to treat veterans virtually. These are critical steps to ensuring the safety of both patients and healthcare personnel, while further limiting the spread of infection.
- Resources to support the needs of vulnerable veteran populations, including:
 - Healthcare for Homeless Veterans, which offers outreach, exams, treatment, referrals, and case management to homeless veterans;
 - Supportive Services for the Veterans Families, which assists very-low income veteran families by providing a range of supportive services designed to promote housing stability; and
 - Caring for COVID-19 positive veterans within VA-run nursing homes and community living centers.

Medical Community Care

The Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act provides **\$2.1 billion** to support the surge in demand for healthcare services at community emergency rooms and urgent care clinics. These funds enable veterans to seek care, when eligible, outside of VA hospitals and clinics.

Medical Facilities

The Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act provides **\$606 million** for alternative sites of care and the procurement of mobile treatment centers. Such efforts are required in order to meet the demand for healthcare services by reconfiguring current space to expand the number of beds and ICU level rooms. These resources are also needed to create temporary facilities and structures, in addition to establishing a fleet of mobile units so that VA can reach veterans across a broader geographic range.

Medical Support and Compliance

The Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act provides **\$100 million** to increase outreach to veterans through videos, printed distributions, text messages, advertisements on the news, social media, and the internet to ensure veterans know how and where to receive care, and expand 24-hour operations of the crisis response and continuity of operations within VA's Office of Emergency Management. This includes overtime, travel, and transportation of materials to enable the Office of Emergency Management to manage the response to the virus.

Information Technology

The Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act provides **\$2.15 billion** in resources needed to expand platform and system capability, increase bandwidth, procure routers for remote imaging capability, server farms, equipment, as well as additional staff and overtime costs, and cybersecurity.

Additionally, resources can be used to procure equipment and support to address increases in telework, telemedicine, call center volume, and overall demand for services. This includes the procurement of devices.

Office of Inspector General

The Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act provides **\$12.5 million** for the Office of Inspector General to exercise oversight of the VA's effort to prevent, prepare for, and respond to the coronavirus, and for the timely detection of waste, fraud and abuse.

RELATED AGENCIES

Armed Forces Retirement Home

The Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act includes **\$2.8 million** to support personnel expenses for healthcare, security, and food service, as well as for medical supplies and equipment to care for Armed Forces Retirement Home residents.