

118TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 9712

To amend title 38, United States Code, to extend certain expiring provisions of law, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 19, 2024

Mr. VALADAO (for himself and Mr. BOST) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs, and in addition to the Committee on Armed Services, 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 amend title 38, United States Code, to extend certain expiring provisions of law, 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; TABLE OF CONTENTS.**

4 (a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the
5 “VA Extenders Act of 2024”.

6 (b) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents for
7 this Act is as follows:

Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.

- Sec. 101. Extension of authority for collection of copayments for hospital care and nursing home care.
- Sec. 102. Extension of requirement To provide nursing home care to certain veterans with service-connected disabilities.
- Sec. 103. Extension of expansion of rural access network for growth enhancement program of the Department of Veterans Affairs.
- Sec. 104. Extension of pilot program To provide veterans access to complementary and integrative health programs through animal therapy, agritherapy, sports and recreation therapy, art therapy, and posttraumatic growth programs.
- Sec. 105. Extension of authority for joint Department of Defense-Department of Veterans Affairs medical facility demonstration fund.

TITLE II—MEMORIAL AFFAIRS

- Sec. 201. Extension of entitlement to memorial headstones and markers for commemoration of veterans and certain individuals.
- Sec. 202. Extension of authority To bury remains of certain spouses and children in national cemeteries.
- Sec. 203. Authority for use of flat grave markers at Santa Fe National Cemetery, New Mexico.

TITLE III—HOMELESSNESS

- Sec. 301. Extension of authority To provide assistance for specially adapted housing for disabled veterans residing temporarily in housing owned by a family member.
- Sec. 302. Extension of authority for specially adapted housing assistive technology grant program.
- Sec. 303. Extension of authorization of appropriations for homeless women veterans and homeless veterans with children reintegration grant program.
- Sec. 304. Extension of authority for treatment and rehabilitation for seriously mentally ill and homeless veterans.
- Sec. 305. Extension of funding for financial assistance for supportive services for very low-income veteran families in permanent housing.
- Sec. 306. Extension of funding for grant program for homeless veterans with special needs.

TITLE IV—OTHER AUTHORITIES

- Sec. 401. Extension of authority To transport individuals to and from Department of Veterans Affairs facilities.
- Sec. 402. Extension of testimonial subpoena authority of Inspector General of the Department of Veterans Affairs.
- Sec. 403. Extension of authority To maintain regional office in the Republic of the Philippines.
- Sec. 404. Extension and modification of authority for monthly assistance allowance for disabled veterans training in Paralympic and Olympic sports program.
- Sec. 405. Expansion of cost estimates for congressional consideration under Cost of War Toxic Exposures Fund; reporting requirements.
- Sec. 406. Extension of authority for report on equitable relief provided due to administrative error.
- Sec. 407. Modification of certain housing loan fees.
- Sec. 408. Extension of authority for transfer of real property.

Sec. 409. Extension of requirements relating to Chief Financial Officer of the Department.

1 **TITLE I—HEALTH CARE**

2 **SEC. 101. EXTENSION OF AUTHORITY FOR COLLECTION OF**
3 **COPAYMENTS FOR HOSPITAL CARE AND**
4 **NURSING HOME CARE.**

5 Section 1710(f)(2)(B) of title 38, United States
6 Code, is amended by striking “September 30, 2024” and
7 inserting “September 30, 2025”.

8 **SEC. 102. EXTENSION OF REQUIREMENT TO PROVIDE**
9 **NURSING HOME CARE TO CERTAIN VET-**
10 **ERANS WITH SERVICE-CONNECTED DISABIL-**
11 **ITIES.**

12 Section 1710A(d) of title 38, United States Code, is
13 amended by striking “September 30, 2024” and inserting
14 “September 30, 2025”.

15 **SEC. 103. EXTENSION OF EXPANSION OF RURAL ACCESS**
16 **NETWORK FOR GROWTH ENHANCEMENT**
17 **PROGRAM OF THE DEPARTMENT OF VET-**
18 **ERANS AFFAIRS.**

19 Section 2(d) of the Sgt. Ketchum Rural Veterans
20 Mental Health Act of 2021 (Public Law 117–21; 38
21 U.S.C. 1712A note) is amended by striking “2024” and
22 inserting “2025”.

1 **SEC. 104. EXTENSION OF PILOT PROGRAM TO PROVIDE**
2 **VETERANS ACCESS TO COMPLEMENTARY**
3 **AND INTEGRATIVE HEALTH PROGRAMS**
4 **THROUGH ANIMAL THERAPY, AGRITHERAPY,**
5 **SPORTS AND RECREATION THERAPY, ART**
6 **THERAPY, AND POSTTRAUMATIC GROWTH**
7 **PROGRAMS.**

8 Section 203(d)(1) of the Scott Hannon Veterans
9 Mental Health Care Improvement Act of 2019 (Public
10 Law 116–171; 38 U.S.C. 1712A note) is amended by
11 striking “for a three-year period beginning on the com-
12 mencement of the pilot program” and inserting “until
13 September 30, 2025”.

14 **SEC. 105. EXTENSION OF AUTHORITY FOR JOINT DEPART-**
15 **MENT OF DEFENSE-DEPARTMENT OF VET-**
16 **ERANS AFFAIRS MEDICAL FACILITY DEM-**
17 **ONSTRATION FUND.**

18 Section 1704(e) of the National Defense Authoriza-
19 tion Act for Fiscal Year 2010 (Public Law 111–84; 123
20 Stat. 2573), as most recently amended by section 104 of
21 division E of the Continuing Appropriations and Ukraine
22 Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2023 (Public Law 117–
23 180; 136 Stat. 2137), is amended by striking “September
24 30, 2024” and inserting “September 30, 2025”.

1 **TITLE II—MEMORIAL AFFAIRS**

2 **SEC. 201. EXTENSION OF ENTITLEMENT TO MEMORIAL**
3 **HEADSTONES AND MARKERS FOR COMMEMO-**
4 **RATION OF VETERANS AND CERTAIN INDI-**
5 **VIDUALS.**

6 Section 2306(b)(2) of title 38, United States Code,
7 is amended by striking “October 1, 2024” both places it
8 appears and inserting “September 30, 2025”.

9 **SEC. 202. EXTENSION OF AUTHORITY TO BURY REMAINS OF**
10 **CERTAIN SPOUSES AND CHILDREN IN NA-**
11 **TIONAL CEMETERIES.**

12 Section 2402(a)(5) of title 38, United States Code,
13 is amended by striking “October 1, 2024” and inserting
14 “September 30, 2025”.

15 **SEC. 203. AUTHORITY FOR USE OF FLAT GRAVE MARKERS**
16 **AT SANTA FE NATIONAL CEMETERY, NEW**
17 **MEXICO.**

18 Section 2404(e)(2) of title 38, United States Code,
19 is amended—

20 (1) in subparagraph (D), by striking “; and”
21 and inserting a period at the end;

22 (2) in subparagraph (E), by striking the period
23 at the end and inserting “; and”; and

24 (3) by adding at the end the following new sub-
25 paragraph:

1 “(F) in the case of Santa Fe National Ceme-
2 tery, New Mexico, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs
3 may provide flat grave markers in any section of
4 such cemetery in which flat markers were in use on
5 December 22, 2023.”.

6 **TITLE III—HOMELESSNESS**

7 **SEC. 301. EXTENSION OF AUTHORITY TO PROVIDE ASSIST-** 8 **ANCE FOR SPECIALLY ADAPTED HOUSING** 9 **FOR DISABLED VETERANS RESIDING TEMPO-** 10 **RARILY IN HOUSING OWNED BY A FAMILY** 11 **MEMBER.**

12 Section 2102A(e) of title 38, United States Code, is
13 amended by striking “December 31, 2024” and inserting
14 “September 30, 2025”.

15 **SEC. 302. EXTENSION OF AUTHORITY FOR SPECIALLY** 16 **ADAPTED HOUSING ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY** 17 **GRANT PROGRAM.**

18 Section 2108(g) of title 38, United States Code, is
19 amended by striking “September 30, 2024” and inserting
20 “September 30, 2025”.

1 **SEC. 303. EXTENSION OF AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIA-**
2 **TIONS FOR HOMELESS WOMEN VETERANS**
3 **AND HOMELESS VETERANS WITH CHILDREN**
4 **REINTEGRATION GRANT PROGRAM.**

5 Section 2021A(f)(1) of title 38, United States Code,
6 is amended by striking “2024” and inserting “2025”.

7 **SEC. 304. EXTENSION OF AUTHORITY FOR TREATMENT AND**
8 **REHABILITATION FOR SERIOUSLY MENTALLY**
9 **ILL AND HOMELESS VETERANS.**

10 (a) **GENERAL TREATMENT.**—Section 2031(b) of title
11 38, United States Code, is amended by striking “Sep-

12 tember 30, 2024” and inserting “September 30, 2025”.

13 (b) **ADDITIONAL SERVICES AT CERTAIN LOCA-**
14 **TIONS.**—Section 2033(d) of such title is amended by strik-

15 ing “September 30, 2024” and inserting “September 30,
16 2025”.

17 **SEC. 305. EXTENSION OF FUNDING FOR FINANCIAL ASSIST-**
18 **ANCE FOR SUPPORTIVE SERVICES FOR VERY**
19 **LOW-INCOME VETERAN FAMILIES IN PERMA-**
20 **NENT HOUSING.**

21 (a) **IN GENERAL.**—Section 2044(e)(H) of title 38,
22 United States Code, is amended by striking “2024” and
23 inserting “2025”.

24 (b) **TECHNICAL AMENDMENT.**—Section 2044(e) of
25 such title is amended by redesignating subparagraphs (A)
26 through (H) as paragraphs (1) through (8), respectively.

1 **SEC. 306. EXTENSION OF FUNDING FOR GRANT PROGRAM**
2 **FOR HOMELESS VETERANS WITH SPECIAL**
3 **NEEDS.**

4 Section 2061(d)(1) of title 38, United States Code,
5 is amended by striking “2024” and inserting “2025”.

6 **TITLE IV—OTHER AUTHORITIES**

7 **SEC. 401. EXTENSION OF AUTHORITY TO TRANSPORT INDI-**
8 **VIDUALS TO AND FROM DEPARTMENT OF**
9 **VETERANS AFFAIRS FACILITIES.**

10 Section 111A(a)(2) of title 38, United States Code,
11 is amended by striking “September 30, 2024” and insert-
12 ing “September 30, 2025”.

13 **SEC. 402. EXTENSION OF TESTIMONIAL SUBPOENA AU-**
14 **THORITY OF INSPECTOR GENERAL OF THE**
15 **DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS.**

16 Section 312(d)(7)(A) of title 38, United States Code,
17 is amended by striking “May 31, 2025” and inserting
18 “September 30, 2025”.

19 **SEC. 403. EXTENSION OF AUTHORITY TO MAINTAIN RE-**
20 **GIONAL OFFICE IN THE REPUBLIC OF THE**
21 **PHILIPPINES.**

22 Section 315(b) of title 38, United States Code, is
23 amended by striking “September 30, 2024” and inserting
24 “September 30, 2025”.

1 **SEC. 404. EXTENSION AND MODIFICATION OF AUTHORITY**
2 **FOR MONTHLY ASSISTANCE ALLOWANCE FOR**
3 **DISABLED VETERANS TRAINING IN**
4 **PARALYMPIC AND OLYMPIC SPORTS PRO-**
5 **GRAM.**

6 Section 322 of title 38, United States Code, is
7 amended—

8 (1) by striking “the United States Olympic
9 Committee” each place it appears and inserting “the
10 United States Olympic & Paralympic Committee”;

11 (2) in subsection (a), by striking “Veterans
12 Benefits Administration” and inserting “Veterans
13 Health Administration”; and

14 (3) in subsection (d), by amending paragraph
15 (4) to read as follows:

16 “(4) There is authorized to be appropriated to carry
17 out this subsection the following:

18 “(A) For each of fiscal years 2010 through
19 2023, \$2,000,000.

20 “(B) For each of fiscal years 2024 through
21 2027, \$2,500,000.”.

1 **SEC. 405. EXPANSION OF COST ESTIMATES FOR CONGRES-**
2 **SIONAL CONSIDERATION UNDER COST OF**
3 **WAR TOXIC EXPOSURES FUND; REPORTING**
4 **REQUIREMENTS.**

5 Subsection (e) of section 324 of title 38, United
6 States Code, is amended—

7 (1) by striking “title 31” and all that follows
8 through the end of the subsection and inserting:
9 “title 31, for the applicable fiscal year—

10 “(1) detailed estimates of the sums proposed to
11 be provided pursuant to subsection (c);

12 “(2) the proposed allocations of such sums,
13 disaggregated by account and program within the
14 Department;

15 “(3) justifications for the sums described in
16 paragraphs (1) and (2); and

17 “(4) for each account described in paragraph
18 (2), a calculation of the amount of funding re-
19 quested for such account over the fiscal year 2021
20 level;” and

21 (2) by adding at the end the following new sub-
22 sections:

23 “(g) REPORT.—(1) For each of fiscal years 2025
24 through 2030, the Secretary shall submit to the appro-
25 priate congressional committees a report that includes,
26 with respect to the fiscal year covered by the report—

1 “(A) an identification, for each account within
2 the Fund, of the total amount obligated or expended
3 by the Secretary;

4 “(B) a description of any activity, program, or
5 project carried out exclusively using sums provided
6 pursuant to the authorization of appropriations
7 under subsection (c); and

8 “(C) a description of how any activity, program,
9 or project carried out using sums provided pursuant
10 to the authorization of appropriations under sub-
11 section (c) benefits veterans who were exposed to en-
12 vironmental hazards while performing active mili-
13 tary, naval, air, or space service.

14 “(2) The Secretary shall submit each report required
15 under paragraph (1) by not later than January 1 of the
16 fiscal year beginning after the fiscal year covered by the
17 report.

18 “(h) INFORMATION PROVIDED UPON CONGRES-
19 SIONAL REQUEST.—The Secretary shall, upon the request
20 of the Chair, Vice Chair, or Ranking Member, of an appro-
21 priate congressional committee, provide to such appro-
22 priate congressional committee documents, records, or
23 other information in the format specified by such com-
24 mittee, including testimony, with respect to any allocation,
25 purpose, use, or activities of the Fund.

1 “(i) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEE DE-
2 FINED.—In this section, the term ‘appropriate congres-
3 sional committee’ means any of the following:

4 “(1) The Committee on Appropriations of the
5 House of Representatives.

6 “(2) The Committee on Appropriations of the
7 Senate.

8 “(3) The Committee on Veterans’ Affairs of the
9 House of Representatives.

10 “(4) The Committee on Veterans’ Affairs of the
11 Senate.”.

12 **SEC. 406. EXTENSION OF AUTHORITY FOR REPORT ON EQ-**
13 **UITABLE RELIEF PROVIDED DUE TO ADMIN-**
14 **ISTRATIVE ERROR.**

15 Section 503(c) of title 38, United States Code, is
16 amended, in the second sentence, by striking “December
17 31, 2024” and inserting “December 31, 2025”.

18 **SEC. 407. MODIFICATION OF CERTAIN HOUSING LOAN**
19 **FEEES.**

20 The loan fee table in section 3729(b)(2) of title 38,
21 United States Code, is amended by striking “November
22 15, 2031” each place it appears and inserting “November
23 29, 2031”.

1 **SEC. 408. EXTENSION OF AUTHORITY FOR TRANSFER OF**
2 **REAL PROPERTY.**

3 Section 8118(a)(5) of title 38, United States Code,
4 is amended by striking “September 30, 2024” and insert-
5 ing “September 30, 2025”.

6 **SEC. 409. EXTENSION OF REQUIREMENTS RELATING TO**
7 **CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER OF THE DEPART-**
8 **MENT.**

9 Section 7103 of the Johnny Isakson and David P.
10 Roe, M.D. Veterans Health Care and Benefits Improve-
11 ment Act of 2020 (Public Law 116–315) is amended by
12 striking “for fiscal year 2022 and each of the next three
13 subsequent fiscal years” and inserting “for each of fiscal
14 years 2026 through 2029”.

○