

117TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 612

To require the Under Secretary for Health of the Department of Veterans Affairs to provide certain information to medical center staff and homelessness service providers of the Department regarding the coordinated entry processes for housing and services operated under the Continuum of Care Program of the Department of Housing and Urban Development, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MARCH 5, 2021

Mr. PORTMAN (for himself, Ms. WARREN, Mr. DURBIN, and Mr. VAN HOLLEN) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs

A BILL

To require the Under Secretary for Health of the Department of Veterans Affairs to provide certain information to medical center staff and homelessness service providers of the Department regarding the coordinated entry processes for housing and services operated under the Continuum of Care Program of the Department of Housing and Urban Development, 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,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “Improving Housing
3 Outcomes for Veterans Act of 2021”.

4 **SEC. 2. DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS SHARING OF**
5 **INFORMATION RELATING TO COORDINATED**
6 **ENTRY PROCESSES FOR HOUSING AND SERV-**
7 **ICES OPERATED UNDER DEPARTMENT OF**
8 **HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT CON-**
9 **TINUUM OF CARE PROGRAM.**

10 (a) **IN GENERAL.**—The Under Secretary for Health
11 of the Department of Veterans Affairs shall—

12 (1) provide to staff of medical centers of the
13 Department of Veterans Affairs and homelessness
14 service providers of the Department the information
15 described in subsection (b); and

16 (2) ensure that such information, and other re-
17 sources the Under Secretary determines are appro-
18 priate, are accessible to such staff and providers.

19 (b) **INFORMATION DESCRIBED.**—The information de-
20 scribed in this subsection is information related to best
21 practices with respect to the collaboration between medical
22 centers of the Department of Veterans Affairs, homeless-
23 ness service providers of the Department, and local part-
24 ners (including local offices of the Department of Housing
25 and Urban Development or public housing agencies, and
26 private and public local community organizations) on the

1 centralized or coordinated assessment systems established
2 and operated by Continuums of Care under section
3 578.7(a)(8) of title 24, Code of Federal Regulations, in-
4 cluding making referrals and sharing data, as the Under
5 Secretary determines appropriate.

6 **SEC. 3. DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS COMMUNICA-**
7 **TION WITH EMPLOYEES RESPONSIBLE FOR**
8 **HOMELESSNESS ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS.**

9 The Under Secretary for Health of the Department
10 of Veterans Affairs shall clearly communicate with em-
11 ployees of the Department of Veterans Affairs whose re-
12 sponsibilities are related to homelessness assistance pro-
13 grams regarding—

14 (1) the measurement of performance of such
15 programs by the Homeless Programs Office of the
16 Department; and

17 (2) how to obtain and provide feedback about
18 performance measures.

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