

## CHAPTER 20—BENEFITS FOR HOMELESS VETERANS

### SUBCHAPTER I—PURPOSE; DEFINITIONS; ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

- Sec.  
2001. Purpose.  
2002. Definitions.  
2003. Staffing requirements.

### SUBCHAPTER II—COMPREHENSIVE SERVICE PROGRAMS

2011. Grants.  
2012. Per diem payments.  
2013. Program to improve retention of housing by formerly homeless veterans and veterans at risk of becoming homeless.  
2014. Authorization of appropriations.

### SUBCHAPTER III—TRAINING AND OUTREACH

2021. Homeless veterans reintegration programs.  
2021A. Homeless women veterans and homeless veterans with children reintegration grant program.  
2022. Coordination of outreach services for veterans at risk of homelessness.  
2023. Referral and counseling services: veterans at risk of homelessness who are transitioning from certain institutions.

### SUBCHAPTER IV—TREATMENT AND REHABILITATION FOR SERIOUSLY MENTALLY ILL AND HOMELESS VETERANS

2031. General treatment.  
2032. Therapeutic housing.  
2033. Additional services at certain locations.  
2034. Coordination with other agencies and organizations.

### SUBCHAPTER V—HOUSING ASSISTANCE

2041. Housing assistance for homeless veterans.  
2042. Supported housing for veterans participating in compensated work therapies.  
2043. Domiciliary care programs.  
2044. Financial assistance for supportive services for very low-income veteran families in permanent housing.

### SUBCHAPTER VI—LOAN GUARANTEE FOR MULTIFAMILY TRANSITIONAL HOUSING

2051. General authority.  
2052. Requirements.  
2053. Default.  
2054. Audit.

### SUBCHAPTER VII—OTHER PROVISIONS

2061. Grant program for homeless veterans with special needs.  
2062. Dental care.  
2063. Employment assistance.  
2064. Technical assistance grants for nonprofit community-based groups.  
2065. Annual report on assistance to homeless veterans.  
2066. Advisory Committee on Homeless Veterans.  
2067. National Center on Homelessness Among Veterans.

#### AMENDMENTS

2016—Pub. L. 114-315, title VII, §§712(a)(2), 713(b), Dec. 16, 2016, 130 Stat. 1587, 1588, added items 2013, 2014, and 2067 and struck out former item 2013 “Authorization of appropriations”.

2010—Pub. L. 111-275, title II, §202(b), Oct. 13, 2010, 124 Stat. 2874, added item 2021A.

2008—Pub. L. 110-387, title VI, §§602(e), 604(b)(2), Oct. 10, 2008, 122 Stat. 4132, 4136, substituted “Referral and counseling services: veterans at risk of homelessness who are transitioning from certain institutions” for

“Demonstration program of referral and counseling for veterans transitioning from certain institutions who are at risk for homelessness” in item 2023 and added item 2044.

### SUBCHAPTER I—PURPOSE; DEFINITIONS; ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

#### § 2001. Purpose

The purpose of this chapter is to provide for the special needs of homeless veterans.

(Added Pub. L. 107-95, §5(a)(1), Dec. 21, 2001, 115 Stat. 905.)

#### PRIOR PROVISIONS

A prior section 2001 was renumbered section 4101 of this title.

Another prior section 2001, Pub. L. 85-857, Sept. 2, 1958, 72 Stat. 1217, related to compensation for veterans under agreements with States, prior to repeal by section 1(a) of Pub. L. 87-675.

#### NATIONAL GOAL TO END HOMELESSNESS AMONG VETERANS

Pub. L. 109-461, title VII, §701, Dec. 22, 2006, 120 Stat. 3439, provided that:

“(a) REAFFIRMATION.—Congress reaffirms the national goal to end chronic homelessness among veterans within a decade of the enactment of the Homeless Veterans Comprehensive Assistance Act of 2001 (Public Law 107-95; 115 Stat. 903) [Dec. 21, 2001].

“(b) REAFFIRMATION OF ENCOURAGEMENT OF COOPERATIVE EFFORTS.—Congress reaffirms its encouragement, as specified in the Homeless Veterans Comprehensive Assistance Act of 2001 (Public Law 107-95; 115 Stat. 903), that all departments and agencies of the Federal, State, and local governments, quasi-governmental organizations, private and public sector entities, including community-based organizations, faith-based organizations, and individuals, work cooperatively to end chronic homelessness among veterans.”

Pub. L. 107-95, §3, Dec. 21, 2001, 115 Stat. 903, provided that:

“(a) NATIONAL GOAL.—Congress hereby declares it to be a national goal to end chronic homelessness among veterans within a decade of the enactment of this Act [Dec. 21, 2001].

“(b) COOPERATIVE EFFORTS ENCOURAGED.—Congress hereby encourages all departments and agencies of Federal, State, and local governments, quasi-governmental organizations, private and public sector entities, including community-based organizations, faith-based organizations, and individuals to work cooperatively to end chronic homelessness among veterans within a decade.”

#### SENSE OF THE CONGRESS REGARDING THE NEEDS OF HOMELESS VETERANS AND THE RESPONSIBILITY OF FEDERAL AGENCIES

Pub. L. 107-95, §4, Dec. 21, 2001, 115 Stat. 904, provided that: “It is the sense of the Congress that—

“(1) homelessness is a significant problem in the veterans community and veterans are disproportionately represented among homeless men;

“(2) while many effective programs assist homeless veterans to again become productive and self-sufficient members of society, current resources provided to such programs and other activities that assist homeless veterans are inadequate to provide all needed essential services, assistance, and support to homeless veterans;

“(3) the most effective programs for the assistance of homeless veterans should be identified and expanded;

“(4) federally funded programs for homeless veterans should be held accountable for achieving clearly defined results;

“(5) Federal efforts to assist homeless veterans should include prevention of homelessness; and

“(6) Federal agencies, particularly the Department of Veterans Affairs, the Department of Housing and Urban Development, and the Department of Labor, should cooperate more fully to address the problem of homelessness among veterans.”

#### EVALUATION CENTERS FOR HOMELESS VETERANS PROGRAMS

Pub. L. 107-95, §6(a), Dec. 21, 2001, 115 Stat. 919, provided that: “The Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall support the continuation within the Department of Veterans Affairs of at least one center for evaluation to monitor the structure, process, and outcome of programs of the Department of Veterans Affairs that address homeless veterans.”

#### DEFINITIONS IN PUB. L. 107-95

Pub. L. 107-95, §2, Dec. 21, 2001, 115 Stat. 903, provided that: “For purposes of this Act [see Short Title of 2001 Amendments note set out under section 101 of this title]:

“(1) The term ‘homeless veteran’ has the meaning given such term in section 2002 of title 38, United States Code, as added by section 5(a)(1).

“(2) The term ‘grant and per diem provider’ means an entity in receipt of a grant under section 2011 or 2012 of title 38, United States Code, as so added.”

### § 2002. Definitions

(a) IN GENERAL.—In this chapter:

(1) The term “homeless veteran” means a veteran who is homeless (as that term is defined in subsection (a) or (b) of section 103 of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 11302)).

(2) The term “grant and per diem provider” means an entity in receipt of a grant under section 2011 or 2012 of this title.

(b) VETERAN DEFINED.—(1) Notwithstanding section 101(2) of this title and except as provided in paragraph (2), for purposes of sections 2011, 2012, 2013, 2044, and 2061 of this title, the term “veteran” means a person who served in the active military, naval, or air service, regardless of length of service, and who was discharged or released therefrom.

(2) For purposes of paragraph (1), the term “veteran” excludes a person who—

(A) received a dishonorable discharge from the Armed Forces; or

(B) was discharged or dismissed from the Armed Forces by reason of the sentence of a general court-martial.

(Added Pub. L. 107-95, §5(a)(1), Dec. 21, 2001, 115 Stat. 905; amended Pub. L. 109-444, §8(a)(3), Dec. 21, 2006, 120 Stat. 3313; Pub. L. 109-461, title X, §§1004(a)(3), 1006(b), Dec. 22, 2006, 120 Stat. 3465, 3468; Pub. L. 114-315, title VII, §701, Dec. 16, 2016, 130 Stat. 1584.)

#### PRIOR PROVISIONS

A prior section 2002 was renumbered section 4102 of this title.

Another prior section 2002, Pub. L. 85-857, Sept. 2, 1958, 72 Stat. 1217, related to compensation for veterans in absence of agreements with States, prior to repeal by section 1(a) of Pub. L. 87-675.

A prior section 2002A was renumbered section 4102A of this title.

#### AMENDMENTS

2016—Pub. L. 114-315 designated existing provisions as subsec. (a), inserted heading, substituted “in subsection

(a) or (b) of section 103 of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 11302)” for “in section 103(a) of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 11302(a))” in subsec. (a)(1), and added subsec. (b).

2006—Par. (1). Pub. L. 109-461, §1006(b), provided that as of the enactment of Pub. L. 109-461, the amendments made by Pub. L. 109-444 were deemed for all purposes not to have taken effect and that Pub. L. 109-444 ceased to be in effect. See Amendment notes below and section 1006(b) of Pub. L. 109-461, set out as a Coordination of Provisions With Pub. L. 109-444 note under section 101 of this title.

Pub. L. 109-461, §1004(a)(3), inserted closing parenthesis before period at end.

Pub. L. 109-444, which inserted closing parenthesis before period at end, was terminated by Pub. L. 109-461, §1006(b). See Amendment notes above.

#### EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2016 AMENDMENT

Pub. L. 114-315, title VII, §706, Dec. 16, 2016, 130 Stat. 1586, provided that: “This subtitle [subtitle A (§§701-706) of title VII of Pub. L. 114-315, amending this section and sections 5303 and 5303A of this title and enacting provisions set out as notes under this section] and the amendments made by this subtitle shall apply to individuals seeking benefits under chapter 20 of title 38, United States Code, before, on, and after the date of the enactment of this Act [Dec. 16, 2016].”

#### REGULATIONS

Pub. L. 114-315, title VII, §705, Dec. 16, 2016, 130 Stat. 1585, provided that: “Not later than 270 days after the date of the enactment of this Act [Dec. 16, 2016], the Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall prescribe regulations, including such modifications to section 3.12 of title 38, Code of Federal Regulations (or any successor regulation), as the Secretary considers appropriate, to ensure that the Department of Veterans Affairs is in full compliance with this title [see Tables for classification] and the amendments made by this subtitle [subtitle A (§§701-706) of title VII of Pub. L. 114-315, amending this section and sections 5303 and 5303A of this title].”

#### TRAINING OF PERSONNEL OF THE DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS AND GRANT RECIPIENTS

Pub. L. 114-315, title VII, §704, Dec. 16, 2016, 130 Stat. 1585, provided that: “The Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall conduct a program of training and education to ensure that the following persons are aware of and implement this title [see Tables for classification] and the amendments made by this subtitle [subtitle A (§§701-706) of title VII of Pub. L. 114-315, amending this section and sections 5303 and 5303A of this title]:

“(1) Personnel of the Department of Veterans Affairs who are supporting or administering a program under chapter 20 of title 38, United States Code.

“(2) Recipients of grants or other amounts for purposes of carrying out such a program.”

### § 2003. Staffing requirements

(a) VBA STAFFING AT REGIONAL OFFICES.—The Secretary shall ensure that there is at least one full-time employee assigned to oversee and coordinate homeless veterans programs at each of the 20 Veterans Benefits Administration regional offices that the Secretary determines have the largest homeless veteran populations within the regions of the Administration. The programs covered by such oversight and coordination include the following:

(1) Housing programs administered by the Secretary under this title or any other provision of law.

(2) Compensation, pension, vocational rehabilitation, and education benefits programs