

116TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. _____

To amend the United States Housing Act of 1937 and title 38, United States Code, to expand eligibility for the HUD–VASH program, to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to submit annual reports to the Committees on Veterans’ Affairs of the Senate and House of Representatives regarding homeless veterans, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

Mr. TESTER (for himself, Mr. YOUNG, and Mr. MURPHY) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on

A BILL

To amend the United States Housing Act of 1937 and title 38, United States Code, to expand eligibility for the HUD–VASH program, to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to submit annual reports to the Committees on Veterans’ Affairs of the Senate and House of Representatives regarding homeless veterans, 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 “Veteran Housing Op-
3 portunities and Unemployment Support Extension Act of
4 2019”.

5 **SEC. 2. EXPANSION OF ELIGIBILITY FOR HUD-VASH.**

6 (a) HUD PROVISIONS.—Section 8(o)(19) of the
7 United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C.
8 1437f(o)(19)) is amended by adding at the end the fol-
9 lowing new subparagraph:

10 “(D) VETERAN DEFINED.—In this para-
11 graph, the term ‘veteran’ has the meaning given
12 that term in section 2002(b) of title 38, United
13 States Code.”.

14 (b) VHA CASE MANAGERS.—Subsection (b) of sec-
15 tion 2003 of title 38, United States Code, is amended—

16 (1) by inserting “(1)” before “The Secretary”;
17 and

18 (2) by adding at the end the following new
19 paragraph:

20 “(2) In the case of vouchers provided under the
21 HUD-VASH program under section 8(o)(19) of such Act,
22 for purposes of paragraph (1), the term ‘veteran’ shall
23 have the meaning given such term in section 2002(b) of
24 this title.”.

25 (c) ANNUAL REPORTS ON HOMELESSNESS SERVICES
26 PROVIDED BY DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS.—

1 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not less frequently than
2 once each year, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs
3 shall submit to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs
4 of the Senate and the Committee on Veterans' Af-
5 fairs of the House of Representatives a report on the
6 homelessness services provided under programs of
7 the Department of Veterans Affairs, including serv-
8 ices under HUD–VASH program under section
9 8(o)(1) of the United States Housing Act of 1937
10 (42 U.S.C. 1437f(o)(19)).

11 (2) INCLUDED INFORMATION.—Each such an-
12 nual report shall include, with respect to the year
13 preceding the submittal of the report, a statement of
14 the number of eligible individuals who were fur-
15 nished such homelessness services and the number of
16 individuals furnished such services under each such
17 program, disaggregated by the number of men who
18 received such services and the number of women
19 who received such services, and such other informa-
20 tion as the Secretary considers appropriate