

**H.R. 6416, Jeff Miller and Richard Blumenthal Veterans Health Care  
and Benefits Improvement Act of 2016**

**TITLE I – DISABILITY COMPENSATION MATTERS**

- Section 101 would amend section 5101 of title 38 to authorize the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) to pay benefits under chapter 13 (dependency and indemnity compensation) and chapter 15 (pension) and sections 2302 (funeral expenses), 2307 (burial benefits), and 5121 (accrued benefits) of title 38 to a survivor of a veteran who has not filed a formal claim if VA determines that the record contains sufficient evidence to establish the survivor's entitlement to those benefits.
- Section 102 would allow the Board of Veterans' Appeals to determine whether a hearing will be held through video conference rather than in-person, unless the appellant requests a specific type of hearing.
- Section 103 would require VA to make available to the public information on the average length of time it takes VA to adjudicate an appeal filed within 180 days after VA's initial decision and the average length of time it takes VA to adjudicate an appeal not filed within 180 days after VA's initial decision and require VA to submit a report reflecting the number of appeals filed within 180 days and not filed within 180 days before and after VA begins publishing those statistics.
- Section 104 would require the Government Accountability Office (GAO) to complete a review of VA's regional offices in order to help the Veterans Benefits Administration achieve more consistent performance in the processing of claims for disability compensation.
- Section 105 would require VA, not later than 15 months after enactment, to submit to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs of the Senate and House of Representatives a report on the criteria and procedures that VA will use to determine appropriate staffing levels at the regional offices while using the National Work Queue for the distribution of claims processing work.
- Section 106 would require VA to include in its annual budget submission information regarding the number of claims a full-time employee can process in a year, based on a time and motion study and other information VA considers appropriate; a description of actions VA will take to improve claims processing; and an assessment of the effects of actions to improve claims processing identified in the prior budget.
- Section 107 would require VA, not later than 120 days after enactment, to submit to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs of the Senate and House of Representatives a report that details VA's plans to reduce the inventory of its non-rating workload and would express the sense of Congress that VA should provide in its Monday Morning Workload Report information regarding the workload of fully-developed claims at each regional office and enhanced information regarding pending appeals.

- Section 108 would require VA to submit to Congress annual reports on VA's progress in implementing the Veterans Benefits Management System. This requirement would sunset three years after enactment.
- Section 109 would authorize a contract physician to conduct a compensation and pension examination at any location in any state, the District of Columbia, or a Commonwealth, territory, or possession of the United States, so long as the examination is within the scope of the authorized duties under the contract. This new authority would apply to a physician who has a current unrestricted license to practice the health care profession of the physician, is performing authorized duties for VA pursuant to a contract for compensation and pension examinations, and is not barred from practicing his or her health care profession in any state, the District of Columbia, or a Commonwealth, territory, or possession of the United States.
- Section 110 would require VA to enter into an agreement for an independent assessment of examinations furnished by VA to individuals seeking disability compensation for traumatic brain injuries.
- Section 111 would require VA to submit to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs of the Senate and the House of Representatives a report on VA's policies with respect to processing reasonably raised unrelated claims. It would also require VA to submit to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs of the Senate and the House of Representatives annual reports on complete and incomplete claims for disability compensation submitted to VA.
- Section 112 would express the sense of Congress that Congress supports annual recognition of American veterans disabled for life.
- Section 113 would express the sense of Congress that VA should submit to Congress information on claims for disability compensation based on a mental health condition alleged to have been incurred or aggravated by military sexual trauma.

## **TITLE II – UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS FOR VETERANS CLAIMS**

- Section 201 would temporarily expand the U.S. Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims (Veterans Court) from 7 to 9 judges through 2020 and require a report on temporary expansions of the Veterans Court.
- Section 202 would require the Veterans Court to pay for judges age 65 and older any increase in the cost of Federal Employees' Group Life Insurance imposed after April 24, 1999.
- Section 203 would provide the judges of the Veterans Court with the option of purchasing additional service credit to enlarge a survivor's annuity.
- Section 204 would modify the requirements for serving as the chief judge of the Veterans Court, so that a judge generally must have three years remaining on his/her term in order to qualify. This change would apply with respect to selection of a chief judge occurring on or after January 1, 2020.

### **TITLE III – BURIAL BENEFITS AND OTHER MATTERS**

- Section 301 would amend section 2306(d) of title 38 to allow the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to provide, in lieu of a headstone or marker, a medallion affixed to the privately purchased headstone or marker of an individual signifying their status as a veteran if they served in the Armed Forces on or after April 6, 1917. Section 301 also requires the Secretary, if requested, to provide to such individuals a headstone, marker, or medallion signifying their status a medal of honor recipient if they have received that award.
- Section 302 would amend section 112(a) of title 38 to align the eligibility categories for the Presidential Memorial Certificate program with certain eligibility categories for burial in a national veterans cemetery. This would make explicit the eligibility for certain reservists who die while hospitalized for line of duty conditions and for ROTC members who die while attending certain training. It would also allow VA to provide a certificate to retired reservists.
- Section 303 would require VA to complete a study on matters relating to the interment of unclaimed remains of veterans in national cemeteries and submit a report to Congress on the findings of the study. The study would include the scope of related issues including the estimated number of unclaimed remains, effectiveness of VA procedures to work with persons or entities in custody of unclaimed remains, and an assessment of state and local laws affecting VA's ability to inter unclaimed remains. This section would take effect one year after enactment and the report would be required one year after it takes effect.
- Section 304 would require VA to conduct a study on the feasibility and the need for providing increased interment options on weekends. The study would need to include information about requests for weekend burials over the past ten years as well as a comparison of practices related to weekend burials at non-VA cemeteries. VA would be required to complete the study and provide a report to Congress within 180 days of enactment.
- Section 305 would honor as veterans certain individuals who performed service in the reserve components of the Armed Forces.

### **TITLE IV – EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE AND VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION**

- Section 401 would amend section 701(d) of the Veterans Access, Choice, and Accountability Act of 2014 (Public Law 113-146) to treat deaths of servicemembers that occurred between September 11, 2001, and December 31, 2005, as if they had occurred on January 1, 2006, for purposes of that section. This change would effectively extend for five years a surviving spouse's eligibility for the Fry Scholarship if his or her spouse died between September 11, 2001 and December 31, 2005. The changes made by section 401 would apply to terms of study beginning on or after January 1, 2015.
- Section 402 would amend section 3104(b) of title 38 to require, to the greatest extent practicable, that an education or training program pursued under Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment must be an approved course for purposes of the Montgomery GI Bill or the Post-

9/11 GI Bill. Section 402 would grant the Secretary of Veterans Affairs authority to waive this new requirement. This section would take effect one year after the provision's enactment.

- Section 403 would add a new subsection to section 3104 of title 38 granting the Secretary of Veterans Affairs authority to prioritize the provision of Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment services to veterans. The Secretary would be authorized to consider the disability rating, employment handicap, qualification for an independent living program, income, and any other appropriate factor in establishing priority. The Secretary would be required to submit a plan to Congress no later than 90 days prior to any planned change in prioritizing services.
- Section 404 would require educational institutions to submit an annual report to VA not later than one year after enactment on the academic progress of students for whom it receives payments under the Post-9/11 GI Bill. The Secretary of Veterans Affairs would be required to include this information in the annual report to Congress on the Post-9/11 GI Bill.
- Section 405 would codify in a new section 3327 of title 38 the provisions now found in section 5003(c) of Public Law 110-252 and would add a provision to that new section providing that, in the case of an individual who on or after January 1, 2017, submits to VA an election of which education program to use that VA determines is clearly against the interests of the individual or who fails to make an election, VA may make an alternative election on behalf of the individual that VA determines is in the best interests of the individual. This section would also require VA to promptly notify the veteran of such alternate election and allow the veteran thirty days to modify the election.
- Section 406 would provide an additional period of five years, from June 30, 2017, to June 30, 2022, during which a student may receive a work-study allowance for performing outreach services for a state approving agency, providing hospital and domiciliary care and medical treatment to veterans in a State home, or performing an activity relating to the administration of a national cemetery or a State veterans' cemetery.
- Section 407 would modify section 3684 of title 38 so that an "educational institution" for purposes of reporting to VA enrollments in education programs would include a group, district, or consortium of separately accredited educational institutions located in the same state that are organized in a manner that facilitates the centralized reporting of enrollments in the group, district, or consortium of institutions.
- Section 408 would amend section 3672 of title 38 so that an education program would be deemed approved for purposes of VA education benefits only if a state approving agency determines that the program meets the deemed-approved criteria. It would also modify section 3675 of title 38 so that a program that is not subject to approval under section 3672 of title 38 may be approved by a state approving agency or VA acting in the role of a state approving agency when the criteria for approval of accredited programs at for-profit institutions are met.
- Section 409 would amend chapter 36 of title 38 to require both accredited and non-accredited programs that are designed to prepare an individual for licensure or certification in a state to meet any instructional curriculum licensure or certification requirements of the state in order to

be approved for purposes of VA education benefits. It would also require programs designed to prepare an individual for employment pursuant to standards developed by a board or agency of a state in an occupation that requires approval or licensure to be approved or licensed by the board or agency of the state in order to be approved for purposes of VA education benefits. It would also require that any course of education designed to prepare a student for licensure to practice law be accredited by a recognized party. It would add a new subsection (f) to section 3676 providing that the Secretary would be authorized to waive either of those requirements in certain circumstances and would add specific criteria for disapproving such courses in section 3679 of title 38. This section would not apply to individuals continuously enrolled in a course if that course is later disapproved pursuant to this section.

- Section 410: Under current law (38 U.S.C. 3676), a non-accredited course may be approved only if the institution submits to the state approving agency a written application and the state approving agency finds upon investigation that a list of specified criteria have been satisfied, including any additional criteria deemed necessary by the state approving agency. Section 410 would modify section 3676 so that additional criteria may be required only if the Secretary, in consultation with the state approving agency and pursuant to regulations prescribed to carry out this requirement, determines that the additional criteria are necessary and treat public, private, and proprietary for-profit educational institutions equitably.
- Section 411 would amend section 3693 of title 38 to provide that VA generally must conduct an annual compliance survey of educational institutions and training establishments offering approved courses if at least 20 veterans or other VA beneficiaries are enrolled in its courses; VA must design the compliance survey to ensure that institutions or establishments and approved courses are in compliance with all applicable provisions of chapters 30 through 36 of title 38; VA must survey each institution or establishment not less than once during every 2-year period; VA must assign not fewer than one education compliance specialist to work on compliance surveys in any year for each 40 compliance surveys required; and VA must, in consultation with state approving agencies, annually determine the parameters of the surveys and not later than September 1 of each year make available to the state approving agencies a list of educational institutions and training establishments that will be surveyed during the fiscal year following the date of making the list available.
- Section 412 would change the rates of the reporting fees that are paid to educational institutions for each educational assistance beneficiary for that calendar year. The rates would change from \$9 and \$13 per student to \$6 and \$12 per student until September 25, 2017. From September 26, 2017, to September 25, 2026, the rates would be \$7 and \$12 per student.
- Section 413 would amend section 3692(a) of title 38 to modify the requirements on the composition of the Veterans Advisory Committee on Education. The current requirement to include veterans representing specific conflict eras, such as World War II, Korea, and Vietnam, would be replaced with a more flexible requirement to include veterans representing those who have, are or may in the future use VA educational assistance benefits.
- Section 414 would require VA to contract with a non-government entity to conduct a survey of individuals who are using or have used VA educational benefits. The survey would have to be

contracted within nine months of enactment, provided to Congress at least 30 days in advance of data collection, completed within six months, and conducted by electronic means. The survey would include demographic information, opinion on effectiveness of transition assistance, and resources used to decide on a program of education and which education benefit to use, among other survey requirements. Section 414 would require VA to report to Congress on the findings of this survey within 90 days of its completion.

- Section 415 would require VA counselors providing services pursuant to section 3697A of title 38 to provide information about articulation agreements related to educational institutions in which the counseled individual is interested in attending. This section would also require VA to include information on such counseling services and the availability of information on articulation agreements in any certification of eligibility for educational assistance that it provides to an eligible individual.
- Section 416 would add 10 U.S.C. 12304a and 12304b to the list of authorities in 10 U.S.C. 16131 and 16133 under which a reservist may regain lost payments and lost entitlement for the Montgomery GI Bill-Selected Reserve education program when that activation authority prevented the reservist from completing his or her studies.
- Section 417 would amend section 3679(c)(2)(B) of title 38 to specify that a covered individual includes someone using education benefits transferred to them under section 3319 of title 38 when the person who transferred benefits is a veteran within three years of separation from active duty or a member of the uniformed services described in section 3319(b). Under this section, VA would be required to disapprove courses in which these covered individuals are charged more than the in-state tuition rate charged to residents of the State for the same program. This change would apply to courses and terms beginning after July 1, 2017.
- Section 418 would require VA, in coordination with the Departments of Defense and Labor, to conduct a study evaluating military transition assistance programs with emphasis on their effectiveness for certain groups of minority veterans. VA would be required to report to Congress its findings and any recommendations within 18 months of enactment. This section also prohibits the authorization of additional funds to carry out these requirements.

#### **TITLE V – SMALL BUSINESS AND EMPLOYMENT MATTERS**

- Section 501 would modify the ownership requirements for small business contracts and preferences. In the case of a veteran who dies as a result of a service-connected disability with a 100 percent rating, the surviving spouse is allowed to assume control of the business for 10 years after the date of the veteran's death. For veterans who pass away with less than 100 percent disability, the transition period would be changed to three years after the veteran's death.
- Section 502 would add section 4115 to chapter 41 of title 38 requiring the Secretary of Labor to contract with a non-government entity to conduct a five-year longitudinal study of job counseling, training, and placement service for veterans. The study would collect information relating to length of military service, disability, unemployment, income levels, home

ownership, use of job counseling and training services, and demographic information. The Secretary would report the findings to Congress by not later than July 1 of each year for the five-year period and include in the report the number of job fairs attended by One-Stop Career Center employees where they had contact with veterans and the number of veterans contacted at each job fair.

- Section 503 would add a new section 717 to title 38 providing:
  - The Secretary may not place any employee that is subject to an investigation for purposes of determining whether they are subject to disciplinary action or against whom any disciplinary action is proposed or initiated on administrative leave for more than a total of 14 days during any 365-day period.
  - The Secretary may waive the 14-day limitation and extend the administrative leave or other paid non-duty if the Secretary submits to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs of the Senate and House of Representatives a detailed explanation of the reasons the individual was placed on administrative leave and the reasons for the extension of such leave or status.
    - The detailed explanation must include the individual's job title, grade, and the location where the individual is employed.
  - New section 717 would apply to any period of administrative leave commencing on or after enactment.
- Section 504 would require the Department of Labor's director of veterans employment and training for each state to coordinate their activities with the state agencies for Labor and Veterans Affairs. Section 504 would take effect one year after the enactment date.

## **TITLE VI – HEALTH CARE MATTERS**

### **Subtitle A – Medical Care**

- Section 601 would provide for the advanced appropriation of funding for the Medical Community Care account.
- Section 602 would amend the definition of preventive health services for purposes of medical services VA is authorized to provide, in order to specify that providing "immunizations" covers each immunization on the recommended adult immunization schedule (established by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices) at the time such immunization is indicated on that schedule. VA would be required to include information on those immunizations in VA's annual report to Congress. VA would be required to report to Congress, within two years of enactment, on VA's development and implementation of quality measures and metrics to ensure that veterans receiving medical services from VA receive each immunization on the recommended adult immunization schedule at the time the immunization is indicated on that schedule, including targets for compliance. Nothing in this section may be construed to require a veteran to receive an immunization the veteran does not want to receive.

- Section 603 would include medal of honor recipients in Priority Group 1 of VA's patient enrollment system, expand their eligibility for extended care, and eliminate their medication copayments.
- Section 604 would require VA to collect from veterans information on health plan contracts and would allow VA to take any action necessary to collect the information. In addition, this section would denote that the Secretary may not deny services to a veteran if he or she fails to provide this information.
- Section 605 would amend title 38 by adding a new section, 1720H, to direct VA to establish standards and procedures in consultation with the Department of Defense to ensure that veterans who participated in classified missions or served in sensitive units may access mental health care in a manner that fully accommodates their obligation to not improperly disclose classified information.
- Section 606 would amend title 38 by adding a new section, 1784A, which, in certain circumstances, requires VA emergency rooms to provide medical screenings and treatment to individuals requesting examination or treatment, including women in labor.

#### **Subtitle B – Veterans Health Administration**

- Section 611 would change the time period covered of an annual report by the Readjustment Counseling Service to coincide with the fiscal year rather than the calendar year directed by current law.
- Section 612 would require VA to submit an annual report to Congress regarding the provision of hospital care, medical services, and nursing home care by the Veterans Health Administration. An annual report would be due not later than March 1 of each year from 2018 through 2022.
- Section 613 would amend section 7402(b)(11)(A) of title 38 to expand the qualifications for an individual to be appointed as a VA licensed professional mental health counselor to include individuals with a doctoral degree in mental health counseling.
- Section 614 would amend section 7423(a) of title 38 to provide an exception to the requirement that the hours of employment for a full-time VA physician may consist of more or less than 80 hours in a biweekly pay period, on the condition the physician provides VA with an advance written request and accounts for at least 2,080 hours of employment in a calendar year.
- Section 615 would repeal the requirement for VA to institute compensation panels to determine market pay for physicians and dentists.
- Section 616 would amend section 7675 of title 38 to include full-time students as among VA Employee Incentive Scholarship participants liable for the amount which was paid to them or on their behalf, in the event the participant fails to maintain VA employment.

- Section 617: Under section 301(b)(2) and (3) of Public Law 113-146 (the Veterans Access, Choice, and Accountability Act of 2014), VA is required to increase the number of graduate medical education residency positions at VA medical facilities by up to 1,500 positions over five years. Also, VA is required to submit annual reports to Congress on graduate medical education residency positions at VA facilities every year through 2019. Section 617 would require VA to increase the number of graduate medical education residency positions over 10 years (rather than five years) and would extend the annual reporting requirement from 2019 to 2024.
- Section 618 would provide that, not later than 180 days and one year after enactment, VA must submit a report on increasing public access to scientific publications and digital data from research funded by VA.
- Section 619 would authorize VA to carry out major medical facility projects in Reno, Nevada and Long Beach, California.

### **Subtitle C -- Toxic Exposure**

- Section 631 would define the terms Armed Forces, descendent, exposure, and veteran for purposes of this subtitle.
- Section 632 would:
  - Provide that, not later than 180 days after enactment, the Secretary shall seek to enter into an agreement with the National Academy of Medicine (NAM) to conduct an assessment on scientific research relating to the descendants of individuals with toxic exposure. If an agreement cannot be entered into, the Secretary shall seek to enter into such an agreement with another appropriate organization.
  - Require that the assessment include:
    - A review of the scientific literature regarding toxicological and epidemiological research on descendants of individuals with toxic exposure; an assessment of areas requiring further study; and an assessment of the scope and methodology required to conduct adequate research including the types of individuals to be studied, the number of veterans and descendants to be studied, alternatives for participation, amount of time and resources needed, and the appropriate federal agencies needed to participate.
    - The establishment of categories, including definitions for each category, to be used in assessing the evidence that a particular health condition is related to toxic exposure.
    - An analysis of the feasibility of conducting scientific research, the value and relevance of the information that could result from the research, and the feasibility and advisability of assessing additional information held by a federal agency that may be sensitive.

- Identification of a research entity or entities with expertise in conducting research on health conditions of descendants of individuals with toxic exposure and the ability to conduct the recommended research.
  - Not later than two years after entering into an agreement, require the National Academy of Medicine to provide a report that includes the results of the assessment conducted regarding the scope and methodology required to conduct adequate research and a determination regarding whether the results of such assessment indicate that it is feasible to conduct further research, including an explanation of the basis for determination.
  - Not later than 90 days after receiving the results of the assessment and determination, require the Secretary to submit to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs of the Senate and House of Representatives a certification of the understanding of the Secretary regarding the feasibility of conducting further research regarding health conditions of descendants of veterans with toxic exposure.
- Section 633 would:
  - Provide that, unless the Secretary certifies that it is not feasible to conduct further research, not later than 180 days after receiving the assessment from the National Academy of Medicine, the Secretary shall establish an advisory board to advise the Secretary in the selection of a research entity or entities, advise the entity in conducting research, and advise the Secretary with respect to the activities of the entity.
  - Provide that the advisory board will consist of 13 voting members with not less than two members of organizations with tax exempt status, two descendants of veterans with toxic exposure, and seven health professionals, scientists or academics with expertise in research.
  - Provide that the advisory board will advise the Secretary in the selection of a research entity, advise the entity and assess the activities of the entity in conducting research, develop a research strategy for the entity, advise the Secretary with respect to the activities of the entity, submit recommendations for the annual report, and meet not less frequently than semiannually with the Secretary and representatives of the entity.
- Section 634 would:
  - Unless the Secretary certifies that it is not feasible to conduct further research, not later than one year after receiving the results and determination from the National Academy of Medicine, require the Secretary to enter into an agreement with one or more research entities to conduct research on health conditions of descendants of veterans with toxic exposure while serving as members of the Armed Forces.
  - Provide that the research entity shall assess, using the categories established in section 632, the extent to which a health condition of a descendent of a veteran is related to toxic exposure of the veteran while serving as a member of the Armed Forces.

- Provide that the Secretary of Defense and the Secretary of VA shall make available to the research entity records held by VA, the Department of Defense, Armed Forces, or any other federal agency, as appropriate, that the research entity determines are necessary. The Secretaries shall jointly establish a mechanism for access.
- Not later than one year after commencing the research, not later than September 30 each year thereafter, require the research entity, in consultation with the Advisory Board, to submit to the Secretary and the Committee on Veterans' Affairs of the Senate and House of Representatives a report on the functions of the research entity during the preceding year. The report shall include a summary of the research efforts, a description of any findings made, and recommendations for administrative or legislative action made by the Advisory Board, which may include recommendations for further research.
- Provide that, upon request from any 501(c)(19) tax exempt organization, the Secretary may transmit to the organization a copy of the report.

**TITLE VII – HOMELESSNESS MATTERS**  
**Subtitle A – Access of Homeless Veterans to Benefits**

- Section 701 would amend section 2002 of title 38 so that the VA definition of homeless veteran would include those individuals described in section 11302(b) of title 42, such as an individual fleeing domestic violence. It would also amend section 2002 of title 38 to define veteran for purposes of certain VA programs, including the Grant and Per Diem (GPD) program and the Supportive Services for Very-Low Income Veteran Families (SSVF) program, as a person who served in the active military, naval, or air services, regardless of length of service, and who was discharged or released. This would not include a person who received a dishonorable discharge or a discharge by reason of a general court martial.
- Section 702 would amend section 5303 of title 38 to exempt homeless veterans from being disqualified from receiving services through the GPD and SSVF programs as a result of a discharge or dismissal from the Armed Forces under conditions other than honorable, except for discharge by reason of a general court-martial.
- Section 703 would amend section 5303A of title 38 to eliminate the minimum period of continuous active duty service requirement for homeless veterans to receive services through VA's GPD and SSVF programs.
- Section 704 would require VA to conduct related training for personnel and grant recipients on requirements of this subtitle.
- Section 705 would require VA to prescribe regulations, including modifications to section 3.12 of title 38, Code of Federal Regulations, not later than 270 days after enactment to ensure compliance with the requirements of this subtitle.
- Section 706 would require that the changes would apply to individuals seeking benefits under chapter 20 of title 38 before, on, and after the date of enactment.

### **Subtitle B – Other Homelessness Matters**

- Section 711: Under current law (38 U.S.C. 2012), VA provides per diem payments to certain entities that provide services to homeless veterans. The per diem payment is calculated based on the daily cost of care, but may not exceed the rate paid to State homes for domiciliary care. Section 711 would amend section 2012 of title 38 to provide that the per diem rate may exceed the rate paid to State homes in the case of services provided to a homeless veteran who is placed in housing that will become permanent housing upon termination of those services (transition-in-place). In those cases, the maximum per diem would be 150% of the State home rate.
- Section 712 would add a new section in title 38 to require VA to carry out a program under which VA provides case management services to improve the retention of housing by veterans who were previously homeless and are transitioning to permanent housing and veterans who are at risk of becoming homeless. VA would be required to provide a report to Congress on the results of the program.
- Section 713 would add a new section in title 38 to require VA to establish and operate a center known as the National Center on Homelessness Among Veterans. This codifies the already existing Center.
- Section 714 would require VA to assess and measure the capacity of programs that receive grants under section 2011 of title 38, or per diem payments under section 2012 or 2061. VA would be required to develop and use tools to examine the capacity of those programs at both the national and local level.
- Section 715 would require VA to submit a report to Congress describing and assessing outreach conducted by VA to realtors, landlords, property management companies, and developers to educate them about the housing needs of veterans and the benefits of having veterans as tenants.

### **TITLE VIII – OTHER MATTERS**

- Section 801 would require VA, to the maximum extent practicable, to use industry standards, standard designs, and best practices in constructing medical facilities; require VA to ensure that relevant employees have ongoing professional training and development regarding industry standards and best practices; require VA to contract for forensic audits of certain medical facility projects; and require VA to submit to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs of the Senate and House of Representatives quarterly reports on super construction projects.
- Section 802 would make technical corrections to title 38.