

1998—Subsec. (a)(1), (3). Pub. L. 105-368 substituted “December 31, 2001” for “December 31, 1998”.

1994—Pub. L. 103-452, §101(f)(2)(A), substituted “and treatment” for “to women veterans” in section catchline.

Subsec. (a)(1). Pub. L. 103-452, §101(b)(1), (f)(1)(A), substituted “December 31, 1998,” for “December 31, 1995,” and struck out “woman” after “counseling to a”.

Subsec. (a)(2). Pub. L. 103-452, §101(a), added par. (2) and struck out former par. (2) which read as follows: “To be eligible to receive counseling under this subsection, a veteran must seek such counseling from the Secretary within two years after the date of the veteran’s discharge or release from active military, naval, or air service.”

Subsec. (a)(3). Pub. L. 103-452, §101(b)(2), substituted “December 31, 1998,” for “December 31, 1994.”

Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 103-452, §101(c), redesignated subsec. (c) as (b) and struck out former subsec. (b) which read as follows: “In providing services to a veteran under subsection (a), the period for which counseling is provided may not exceed one year from the date of the commencement of the furnishing of such counseling to the veteran. However, the Secretary may authorize a longer period in any case if, in the judgment of the Secretary, a longer period of counseling is required.”

Subsec. (b)(1). Pub. L. 103-452, §101(d), amended par. (1) generally. Prior to amendment, par. (1) read as follows: “The Secretary shall give priority to the establishment and operation of the program to provide counseling under subsection (a). In the case of a veteran eligible for such counseling who requires other care or services under this chapter for trauma described in subsection (a)(1), the Secretary shall ensure that the veteran is furnished counseling under this section in a way that is coordinated with the furnishing of such other care and services under this chapter.”

Subsec. (b)(2)(C). Pub. L. 103-452, §101(f)(1)(B), struck out “women” after “assist”.

Subsec. (c). Pub. L. 103-452, §101(f)(1)(B), struck out “women” after “available to” in introductory provisions.

Pub. L. 103-452, §101(c)(2), redesignated subsec. (d) as (c). Former subsec. (c) redesignated (b).

Subsec. (c)(1). Pub. L. 103-452, §101(g)(1), amended par. (1) generally. Prior to amendment, par. (1) read as follows: “may include establishment of an information system involving the use of a toll-free telephone number (commonly referred to as an 800 number), and”.

Subsec. (c)(2). Pub. L. 103-452, §101(f)(1)(C), substituted “individuals” for “women”.

Subsecs. (d), (e). Pub. L. 103-452, §101(c)(2), redesignated subsec. (e) as (d). Former subsec. (d) redesignated (c).

**INFORMATION ON TELEPHONE COUNSELING AVAILABILITY; PERSONNEL TRAINING; CLIENT CONFIDENTIALITY; PUBLICITY; REPORT**

Section 101(g)(2) to (5) of Pub. L. 103-452 provided that:

“(2) In providing information on counseling available to veterans as required under section 1720D(c)(1) of title 38, United States Code (as amended by paragraph (1)), the Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall ensure that the Department of Veterans Affairs personnel who provide assistance under such section are trained in the provision to persons who have experienced sexual trauma of information about the care and services relating to sexual trauma that are available to veterans in the communities in which such veterans reside, including care and services available under programs of the Department (including the care and services available under section 1720D of such title) and from non-Department agencies or organizations.

“(3) The telephone assistance service shall be operated in a manner that protects the confidentiality of persons who place calls to the system.

“(4) The Secretary shall ensure that information about the availability of the telephone assistance service is visibly posted in Department medical facilities

and is advertised through public service announcements, pamphlets, and other means.

“(5) Not later than 18 months after the date of the enactment of this Act [Nov. 2, 1994], the Secretary shall submit to Congress a report on the operation of the telephone assistance service required under section 1720D(c)(1) of title 38, United States Code (as amended by paragraph (1)). The report shall set forth the following:

“(A) The number of persons who sought information during the period covered by the report through a toll-free telephone number regarding services available to veterans relating to sexual trauma, with a separate display of the number of such persons arrayed by State (as such term is defined in section 101(20) of title 38, United States Code).

“(B) A description of the training provided to the personnel who provide such assistance.

“(C) The recommendations and plans of the Secretary for the improvement of the service.”

**TRANSITION PERIOD FOR ELIGIBILITY FOR COUNSELING**

Section 102(b) of Pub. L. 102-585, as amended by Pub. L. 103-210, §2(b), Dec. 20, 1993, 107 Stat. 2497, provided that in the case of a veteran who was discharged or released from active military, naval, or air service before Dec. 31, 1992, the two-year period specified in 38 U.S.C. 1720D(a)(2) was to be treated as ending on Dec. 31, 1994, prior to repeal by Pub. L. 103-452, title I, §101(h), Nov. 2, 1994, 108 Stat. 4785.

**COMMENCEMENT OF PROVISION OF INFORMATION ON SERVICES**

Section 104 of Pub. L. 102-585 directed Secretary of Veterans Affairs, not later than 90 days after Nov. 4, 1992, to commence the provision of information on the counseling relating to sexual trauma that is available to women veterans under 38 U.S.C. 1720D.

**REPORT ON IMPLEMENTATION OF SEXUAL TRAUMA COUNSELING PROGRAM**

Section 105 of Pub. L. 102-585 directed Secretary of Veterans Affairs, not later than Mar. 31, 1994, to submit to Congress a comprehensive report on the Secretary’s actions under 38 U.S.C. 1720D.

**§ 1720E. Nasopharyngeal radium irradiation**

(a) The Secretary may provide any veteran a medical examination, and hospital care, medical services, and nursing home care, which the Secretary determines is needed for the treatment of any cancer of the head or neck which the Secretary finds may be associated with the veteran’s receipt of nasopharyngeal radium irradiation treatments in active military, naval, or air service.

(b) The Secretary shall provide care and services to a veteran under subsection (a) only on the basis of evidence in the service records of the veteran which document nasopharyngeal radium irradiation treatment in service, except that, notwithstanding the absence of such documentation, the Secretary may provide such care to a veteran who—

(1) served as an aviator in the active military, naval, or air service before the end of the Korean conflict; or

(2) underwent submarine training in active naval service before January 1, 1965.

(Added Pub. L. 105-368, title IX, §901(a), Nov. 11, 1998, 112 Stat. 3360.)

**§ 1720F. Comprehensive program for suicide prevention among veterans**

(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary shall develop and carry out a comprehensive program