

Union Calendar No. 167

105TH CONGRESS
1ST Session

H. R. 2206

[Report No. 105-293]

A BILL

To amend title 38, United States Code, to improve programs of the Department of Veterans Affairs for homeless veterans, and for other purposes.

OCTOBER 2, 1997

Reported with an amendment, committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union, and ordered to be printed

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IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 22, 1997

Mr. STEARNS (for himself and Mr. GUTIERREZ) introduced the following bill;
which was referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs

OCTOBER 2, 1997

Additional sponsors: Mr. COOKSEY, Mr. BILIRAKIS, Mr. DOYLE, Mr. MASCARA, Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, Mr. REYES, Mrs. CHENOWETH, and Mr. EVANS

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Reported with an amendment, committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union, and ordered to be printed

[Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert the part printed in italic]

[For text of introduced bill, see copy of bill as introduced on July 22, 1997]

A BILL

To amend title 38, United States Code, to improve programs of the Department of Veterans Affairs for 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,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 *This Act may be cited as the “Veterans Health Pro-*
5 *grams Improvement Act of 1997”.*

6 **SEC. 2. TREATMENT AND REHABILITATION FOR SERIOUSLY**
7 **MENTALLY ILL AND HOMELESS VETERANS.**

8 *(a) CODIFICATION AND REVISIONS OF VETERANS*
9 *HOMELESS PROGRAMS.—Chapter 17 of title 38, United*
10 *States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following*
11 *new subchapter:*

12 *“SUBCHAPTER VII—TREATMENT AND REHABILI-*
13 *TATION FOR SERIOUSLY MENTALLY ILL AND*
14 *HOMELESS VETERANS*

15 **“§ 1771. General treatment**

16 *“In providing care and services under section 1710 of*
17 *this title to veterans suffering from serious mental illness,*
18 *including veterans who are homeless, the Secretary may*
19 *provide (directly or in conjunction with a governmental or*
20 *other entity)—*

21 *“(1) outreach services;*

22 *“(2) care, treatment, and rehabilitative services*
23 *(directly or by contract in community-based treat-*
24 *ment facilities, including halfway houses); and*

1 “(3) *therapeutic transitional housing assistance*
2 *under section 1772 of this title, in conjunction with*
3 *work therapy under section 1718(a) or (b) of this title*
4 *and outpatient care.*

5 **“§ 1772. *Therapeutic housing***

6 “(a) *The Secretary, in connection with the conduct of*
7 *compensated work therapy programs, may operate resi-*
8 *dences and facilities as therapeutic housing.*

9 “(b) *The Secretary may use such procurement proce-*
10 *dures for the purchase, lease, or other acquisition of residen-*
11 *tial housing for purposes of this section as the Secretary*
12 *considers appropriate to expedite the opening and operation*
13 *of transitional housing and to protect the interests of the*
14 *United States.*

15 “(c) *A residence or other facility may be operated as*
16 *transitional housing for veterans described in paragraphs*
17 *(1) and (2) of section 1710(a) of this title under the follow-*
18 *ing conditions:*

19 “(1) *Only veterans described in those paragraphs*
20 *and a house manager may reside in the residence.*

21 “(2) *Each resident, other than the house man-*
22 *ager, shall be required to make payments that con-*
23 *tribute to covering the expenses of board and the oper-*
24 *ational costs of the residence for the period of resi-*
25 *dence in such housing.*

1 “(3) *In order to foster the therapeutic and reha-*
2 *bilitative objectives of such housing (A) residents shall*
3 *be prohibited from using alcohol or any controlled*
4 *substance or item, (B) any resident violating that*
5 *prohibition may be expelled from the residence, and*
6 *(C) each resident shall agree to undergo drug testing*
7 *or such other measures as the Secretary shall pre-*
8 *scribe to ensure compliance with that prohibition.*

9 “(4) *In the establishment and operation of hous-*
10 *ing under this section, the Secretary shall consult*
11 *with appropriate representatives of the community in*
12 *which the housing is established and shall comply*
13 *with zoning requirements, building permit require-*
14 *ments, and other similar requirements applicable to*
15 *other real property used for similar purposes in the*
16 *community.*

17 “(5) *The residence shall meet State and commu-*
18 *nity fire and safety requirements applicable to other*
19 *real property used for similar purposes in the com-*
20 *munity in which the transitional housing is located,*
21 *but fire and safety requirements applicable to build-*
22 *ings of the Federal Government shall not apply to*
23 *such property.*

24 “(d) *The Secretary shall prescribe the qualifications*
25 *for house managers for transitional housing units operated*

1 *under this section. The Secretary may provide for free room*
2 *and subsistence for house managers in addition to, or in-*
3 *stead of payment of, a fee for such services.*

4 “(e)(1) *The Secretary may operate as transitional*
5 *housing under this section—*

6 “(A) *any suitable residential property acquired*
7 *by the Secretary as the result of a default on a loan*
8 *made, guaranteed, or insured under chapter 37 of this*
9 *title;*

10 “(B) *any suitable space in a facility under the*
11 *jurisdiction of the Secretary that is no longer being*
12 *used (i) to provide acute hospital care, or (ii) as*
13 *housing for medical center employees; and*

14 “(C) *any other suitable residential property pur-*
15 *chased, leased, or otherwise acquired by the Secretary.*

16 “(2) *In the case of any property referred to in para-*
17 *graph (1)(A), the Secretary shall—*

18 “(A) *transfer administrative jurisdiction over*
19 *such property within the Department from the Veter-*
20 *ans Benefits Administration to the Veterans Health*
21 *Administration; and*

22 “(B) *transfer from the General Post Fund of the*
23 *Department of Veterans Affairs to the appropriate re-*
24 *volving fund under chapter 37 of this title an amount*
25 *(not to exceed the amount the Secretary paid for the*

1 *property) representing the amount the Secretary con-*
2 *siders could be obtained by sale of such property to*
3 *a nonprofit organization or a State for use as a shel-*
4 *ter for homeless veterans.*

5 “(3) *In the case of any residential property obtained*
6 *by the Secretary from the Department of Housing and*
7 *Urban Development under this section, the amount paid by*
8 *the Secretary to that Department for that property may*
9 *not exceed the amount that the Secretary of Housing and*
10 *Urban Development would charge for the sale of that prop-*
11 *erty to a nonprofit organization or a State for use as a*
12 *shelter for homeless persons. Funds for such charge shall be*
13 *derived from the General Post Fund.*

14 “(f) *The Secretary shall prescribe—*

15 “(1) *a procedure for establishing reasonable pay-*
16 *ment rates for persons residing in transitional hous-*
17 *ing; and*

18 “(2) *appropriate limits on the period for which*
19 *such persons may reside in transitional housing.*

20 “(g) *The Secretary may dispose of any property ac-*
21 *quired for the purpose of this section. The proceeds of any*
22 *such disposal shall be credited to the General Post Fund*
23 *of the Department of Veterans Affairs.*

24 “(h) *Funds received by the Department under this sec-*
25 *tion shall be deposited in the General Post Fund. The Sec-*

1 retary may distribute out of the fund such amounts as nec-
2 essary for the acquisition, management, maintenance, and
3 disposition of real property for the purpose of carrying out
4 such program. The Secretary shall manage the operation
5 of this section so as to ensure that expenditures under this
6 subsection for any fiscal year shall not exceed by more than
7 \$500,000 proceeds credited to the General Post Fund under
8 this section. The operation of the program and funds re-
9 ceived shall be separately accounted for, and shall be stated
10 in the documents accompanying the President's budget for
11 each fiscal year.

12 **“§ 1773. Additional services at certain locations**

13 “(a) Subject to the availability of appropriations, the
14 Secretary shall operate a program under this section to ex-
15 pand and improve the provision of benefits and services by
16 the Department to homeless veterans.

17 “(b) The program shall include the establishment of
18 not fewer than eight programs (in addition to any existing
19 programs providing similar services) at sites under the ju-
20 risdiction of the Secretary to be centers for the provision
21 of comprehensive services to homeless veterans. The services
22 to be provided at each site shall include a comprehensive
23 and coordinated array of those specialized services which
24 may be provided under existing law.

1 “(B) *Education and training.*

2 “(C) *Employment.*

3 “(D) *Shelter.*

4 “(E) *Counseling.*

5 “(F) *Outreach services.*

6 “(4) *Each assessment shall also indicate the extent to*
7 *which the needs referred to in paragraph (3) are being met*
8 *adequately by the programs of the Department, of other de-*
9 *partments and agencies of the Federal Government, of State*
10 *and local governments, and of nongovernmental organiza-*
11 *tions.*

12 “(5) *Each assessment shall be carried out in accord-*
13 *ance with uniform procedures and guidelines prescribed by*
14 *the Secretary.*

15 “(c) *In furtherance of subsection (a), the Secretary*
16 *shall require the director of each medical center and the*
17 *director of each regional benefits office, in coordination with*
18 *representatives of State and local governments, other Fed-*
19 *eral officials, and nongovernmental organizations that have*
20 *experience working with homeless persons in the areas*
21 *served by such facility or office, to—*

22 “(1) *develop a list of all public and private pro-*
23 *grams that provide assistance to homeless persons or*
24 *homeless veterans in the area concerned, together with*
25 *a description of the services offered by those programs;*

1 “(2) seek to encourage the development by the
2 representatives of such entities, in coordination with
3 the director, of a plan to coordinate among such pub-
4 lic and private programs the provision of services to
5 homeless veterans;

6 “(3) take appropriate action to meet, to the max-
7 imum extent practicable through existing programs
8 and available resources, the needs of homeless veterans
9 that are identified in the assessment conducted under
10 subsection (b); and

11 “(4) attempt to inform homeless veterans whose
12 needs the director cannot meet under paragraph (3)
13 of the services available to such veterans within the
14 area served by such center or office.”.

15 (b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—(1) Section 1720A of
16 such title is amended—

17 (A) by striking out subsections (a), (e), (f), and
18 (g); and

19 (B) by redesignating subsections (b), (c), and (d)
20 as subsections (a), (b), and (c), respectively.

21 (2) The heading of such section is amended to read
22 as follows:

1 **“§1720A. Treatment and rehabilitative services for**
 2 **persons with drug or alcohol depend-**
 3 **ency”.**

4 (c) *CONFORMING REPEALS.*—*The following provisions*
 5 *are repealed:*

6 (1) *Section 7 of Public Law 102–54 (38 U.S.C.*
 7 *1718 note).*

8 (2) *Section 107 of the Veterans’ Medical Pro-*
 9 *grams Amendments of 1992 (38 U.S.C. 527 note).*

10 (3) *Section 2 of the Homeless Veterans Com-*
 11 *prehensive Service Programs Act of 1992 (38 U.S.C.*
 12 *7721 note).*

13 (d) *CLERICAL AMENDMENTS.*—*The table of sections at*
 14 *the beginning of chapter 17 of such title is amended—*

15 (1) *by striking out the item relating to section*
 16 *1720A and inserting in lieu thereof the following:*

“1720A. Treatment and rehabilitative services for persons with drug or alcohol de-
pendency.”; and

17 (2) *by adding at the end the following:*

“SUBCHAPTER VII—TREATMENT AND REHABILITATION FOR SERIOUSLY
MENTALLY ILL AND HOMELESS VETERANS

“1771. General treatment.

“1772. Therapeutic housing.

“1773. Additional services at certain locations.

“1774. Coordination with other agencies and organizations.”.

18 **SEC. 3. EXTENSION OF HOMELESS VETERANS COMPREHEN-**
 19 **SIVE SERVICE GRANT PROGRAM.**

20 (a) *EXTENSION FOR TWO FISCAL YEARS.*—*Subsection*
 21 *(a)(2) of section 3 of the Homeless Veterans Comprehensive*

1 *Service Programs Act of 1992 (38 U.S.C. 7721 note) is*
2 *amended by striking out “September 30, 1997” and insert-*
3 *ing in lieu thereof “September 30, 1999”.*

4 (b) *REPEAL OF LIMITATION ON NUMBER OF*
5 *PROJECTS.—Subsection (b)(2) of such section is amended*
6 *by striking out “, which shall” and all that follows through*
7 *“paragraph (1)”.*

8 (c) *TECHNICAL CORRECTION.—Subsection (a)(1) of*
9 *such section is amended by striking out “, during”.*

10 **SEC. 4. ANNUAL REPORT ON ASSISTANCE TO HOMELESS**
11 **VETERANS.**

12 *Section 1001 of the Veterans’ Benefits Improvements*
13 *Act of 1994 (38 U.S.C. 7721 note) is amended—*

14 (1) *in subsection (a)(2)—*

15 (A) *by striking out “and” at the end of sub-*
16 *paragraph (B);*

17 (B) *by striking out the period at the end of*
18 *subparagraph (C) and inserting in lieu thereof “;*
19 *and”;* and

20 (C) *by adding at the end the following new*
21 *subparagraphs:*

22 “(D) *evaluate the effectiveness of the programs of*
23 *the Department (including residential work-therapy*
24 *programs, programs combining outreach, community-*
25 *based residential treatment, and case-management,*

1 *and contract care programs for alcohol and drug-de-*
 2 *pendence or abuse disabilities) in providing assist-*
 3 *ance to homeless veterans; and*

4 *“(E) evaluate the effectiveness of programs estab-*
 5 *lished by recipients of grants under section 3 of the*
 6 *Homeless Veterans Comprehensive Service Programs*
 7 *Act of 1992 (38 U.S.C. 7721 note), and describe the*
 8 *experience of such entities in applying for and receiv-*
 9 *ing grants from the Secretary of Housing and Urban*
 10 *Development to serve primarily homeless persons who*
 11 *are veterans.”; and*

12 *(2) by striking out subsection (b) and redesignat-*
 13 *ing subsection (c) as subsection (b).*

14 **SEC. 5. NONINSTITUTIONAL ALTERNATIVES TO NURSING**
 15 **HOME CARE.**

16 *Section 1720C of title 38, United States Code, is*
 17 *amended—*

18 *(1) in subsection (a), by striking out “During”*
 19 *and all that follows through “furnishing of” and in-*
 20 *serting in lieu thereof “The Secretary may furnish”;*
 21 *and*

22 *(2) in subsection (b)(1), by striking out “pilot”.*

23 **SEC. 6. PERSIAN GULF WAR VETERANS.**

24 *(a) SCOPE OF COUNSELING.—Section 703 of the Veter-*
 25 *ans Health Care Act of 1992 (Public Law 102–585; 106*

1 *Stat. 4976) is amended by adding at the end the following*
2 *new subsection:*

3 “(c) *FORM OF COUNSELING.*—*Counseling provided in*
4 *this section may not be provided through written materials*
5 *only, but shall include verbal counseling.*”.

6 (b) *CRITERIA FOR PRIORITY HEALTH CARE.*—(1)
7 *Subsection (a)(2)(F) of section 1710 of title 38, United*
8 *States Code, is amended by striking out “environmental*
9 *hazard” and inserting in lieu thereof “other conditions”.*

10 (2) *Subsection (e)(1)(C) of such section is amended—*

11 (A) *by striking out “the Secretary finds may*
12 *have been exposed while serving” and inserting in*
13 *lieu thereof “served”;*

14 (B) *by striking out “to a toxic substance or envi-*
15 *ronmental hazard”; and*

16 (C) *by striking out “exposure” and inserting in*
17 *lieu thereof “service”.*

18 (3) *Subsection (e)(2)(B) of such section is amended by*
19 *striking out “an exposure” and inserting in lieu thereof*
20 *“the service”.*

21 (c) *DEMONSTRATION PROJECTS FOR TREATMENT OF*
22 *PERSIAN GULF ILLNESS.*—(1) *The Secretary shall carry*
23 *out a program of demonstration projects to test new ap-*
24 *proaches to treating, and improving the satisfaction with*
25 *such treatment of, Persian Gulf veterans who suffer from*

1 *undiagnosed and ill-defined disabilities. The program shall*
2 *be established not later than July 1, 1998, and shall be car-*
3 *ried out at up to 10 geographically dispersed medical cen-*
4 *ters of the Department of Veterans Affairs.*

5 (2) *At least one of each of the following models shall*
6 *be used at no less than two of the demonstration projects:*

7 (A) *A specialized clinic which serves Persian*
8 *Gulf veterans.*

9 (B) *Multidisciplinary treatment aimed at man-*
10 *aging symptoms.*

11 (C) *Use of case managers.*

12 (3) *A demonstration project under this subsection may*
13 *be undertaken in conjunction with another funding entity,*
14 *including agreements under section 8111 of title 38, United*
15 *States Code.*

16 (4) *The Secretary shall make available from appro-*
17 *priated funds (which have been retained for contingent*
18 *funding) \$5,000,000 to carry out the demonstrations*
19 *projects.*

20 (5) *The Secretary may not approve a medical center*
21 *as a location for a demonstration project under this sub-*
22 *section unless a peer review panel has determined that the*
23 *proposal submitted by that medical center is among those*
24 *proposals that have met the highest competitive standards*

1 *of clinical merit and the Secretary has determined that the*
2 *facility has the ability to—*

3 *(A) attract the participation of clinicians of out-*
4 *standing caliber and innovation to the project; and*

5 *(B) effectively evaluate the activities of the*
6 *project.*

7 *(6) In determining which medical centers to select as*
8 *locations for demonstration projects under this subsection,*
9 *the Secretary shall give special priority to medical centers*
10 *that have demonstrated a capability to compete successfully*
11 *for extramural funding support for research into the effec-*
12 *tiveness and cost-effectiveness of the care provided under the*
13 *demonstration project.*

14 **SEC. 7. PERSONNEL POLICY.**

15 *Section 7425 of title 38, United States Code, is amend-*
16 *ed by adding at the end the following new subsection:*

17 *“(c)(1) Notwithstanding any other provision of law,*
18 *employees described in paragraph (2), and the personnel*
19 *positions in which such employees are employed, are not*
20 *subject to any reduction required by law or executive branch*
21 *policy in the number or percentage of employees, or of per-*
22 *sonnel positions, within specified pay grades.*

23 *“(2) Paragraph (1) applies to employees, and person-*
24 *nel positions, of the Veterans Health Administration per-*
25 *forming the following functions:*

1 “(A) *The provision of, or the supervision of the*
2 *provision of, care and services to patients.*”

3 “(B) *The conduct of research.*”.

4 **SEC. 8. VETERANS CANTEEN SERVICE.**

5 (a) *AUTHORITY TO SET PRICES.*—Paragraph (7) of
6 *section 7802 of title 38, United States Code, is amended*
7 *to read as follows:*

8 “(7) *notwithstanding any other provision of law,*
9 *have sole authority to establish canteens (including*
10 *vending facilities and vending machines), and deter-*
11 *mine, and fix the prices of, merchandise and services*
12 *sold at such canteens;*”.

13 (b) *OFF-PREMISES USE.*—Section 7803 of such title
14 *is amended—*

15 (1) *in subsection (a), by striking out “in this*
16 *subsection;” and all that follows through “the prem-*
17 *ises” and inserting in lieu thereof “in this section”;*
18 *and*

19 (2) *by striking out subsection (b).*

20 (c) *SUPPORT SERVICES.*—Section 7803 of such title is
21 *further amended by adding at the end the following new*
22 *subsection:*

23 “(b) *A canteen may provide support services to medi-*
24 *cal facilities of the Department. Such services shall be pro-*
25 *vided on a reimbursable basis.*”.

1 (d) *TECHNICAL AMENDMENTS.*—(1) *Paragraphs (1)*
 2 *and (11) of section 7802 of such title are each amended by*
 3 *striking out “hospitals and homes” and inserting in lieu*
 4 *thereof “medical facilities”.*

5 (2) *Section 7803(a) of such title is further amended—*

6 (A) *by striking out “hospitals and homes” each*
 7 *place it appears and inserting in lieu thereof “medi-*
 8 *cal facilities”;* and

9 (B) *by striking out “hospital or home” and in-*
 10 *serting in lieu thereof “medical facility”.*

11 **SEC. 9. TREATMENT FOR RETIREMENT PURPOSES OF SPE-**
 12 **CIAL PAY PAID TO PHYSICIANS AND DEN-**
 13 **TISTS OF THE VETERANS HEALTH ADMINIS-**
 14 **TRATION.**

15 (a) *CREDITING OF SPECIAL PAY FOR RETIREMENT*
 16 *PURPOSES.*—*Section 7438 of title 38, United States Code,*
 17 *is amended by adding at the end the following new sub-*
 18 *section:*

19 “(d)(1) *The Secretary may authorize special pay paid*
 20 *under this subchapter to a physician or dentist described*
 21 *in paragraph (2) who retires from Federal service during*
 22 *the period beginning on the date of the enactment of this*
 23 *subsection and ending on September 30, 1999, to be consid-*
 24 *ered to be basic pay for the purposes of chapter 83 or 84*
 25 *of title 5, as appropriate.*

1 “(2) Paragraph (1) applies to any physician or dentist
2 employed by the Veterans Health Administration—

3 “(A) who—

4 “(i) is in receipt of special pay under chap-
5 ter 74 of this title;

6 “(ii) is eligible to retire from Federal Gov-
7 ernment service;

8 “(iii) has completed, or by September 30,
9 1999, would have completed, 15 years of service
10 in the Veterans Health Administration (deter-
11 mined assuming the physician or dentist re-
12 mained continuously employed in the Veterans
13 Health Administration until that date); and,

14 “(iv) by September 30, 1999, would have
15 completed at least eight years of service in the
16 Veterans Health Administration while in receipt
17 of special pay under this subchapter (determined
18 assuming the physician or dentist remained con-
19 tinuously employed in the Veterans Health Ad-
20 ministration until that date); and

21 “(B) with respect to whom the director of the De-
22 partment health care facility at which the physician
23 or dentist is employed has determined, and certified
24 to the Under Secretary for Health, that—

1 “(i) the physician or dentist holds a posi-
2 tion which, because of changes in staffing pat-
3 terns or staffing levels at such facility, is no
4 longer required to be maintained at such facility;
5 and

6 “(ii) there exists no available position at
7 such facility appropriate to the training and ex-
8 perience of the physician or dentist.

9 “(3)(A) For each physician or dentist who retires with
10 the benefit of the provisions of paragraph (1), the Secretary
11 shall deposit in the Treasury to the credit of the appropriate
12 Federal retirement fund each year, for the period specified
13 in subparagraph (B), an amount equal to the amount of
14 the annuity paid (or to be paid) to the retired physician
15 or dentist for that year.

16 “(B) The period applicable under subparagraph (A)
17 for any retired physician or dentist is the period beginning
18 on the date on which the physician or dentist retires and
19 ending on the later of the following (determined as if the
20 physician or dentist had remained continuously employed
21 in the Veterans Health Administration rather than retir-
22 ing):

23 “(i) The date on which the physician or dentist
24 completed or would have completed 15 years of service
25 in the Veterans Health Administration.

1 “(ii) *The date on which the physician or dentist*
2 *would have completed eight years of service in the*
3 *Veterans Health Administration while in receipt of*
4 *special pay under this subchapter.*

5 “(C) *A physician or dentist who retires with the bene-*
6 *fit of the provisions of paragraph (1) is not eligible to re-*
7 *ceive a voluntary separation incentive payment under the*
8 *provisions of section 663 of the Treasury, Postal Service,*
9 *and General Government Appropriations Act, 1997 (as con-*
10 *tained in section 101(f) of division A of Public Law 104-*
11 *208; 110 Stat. 3009–383), relating to voluntary separation*
12 *incentives for employees of certain Federal agencies, or any*
13 *other provision of law.”.*

14 (b) *AMENDMENTS TO REFLECT EFFECTIVE DATE OF*
15 *CHAPTER 74 SPECIAL PAY AUTHORITY.—Subchapter III of*
16 *chapter 74 of such title is amended as follows:*

17 (1) *Section 7431(g)(1) is amended by striking*
18 *out “the day before the effective date of this sub-*
19 *chapter” and inserting in lieu thereof “July 13,*
20 *1991,”.*

21 (2) *Section 7432(c)(1) is amended by striking*
22 *out “the effective date of the Department of Veterans*
23 *Affairs Physician and Dentist Recruitment and Re-*
24 *tention Act of 1991” and inserting in lieu thereof*
25 *“July 14, 1991”.*

1 (3) Section 7437(e) is amended in each of para-
2 graphs (1) and (2)—

3 (A) in the matter preceding subparagraph
4 (A), by striking out “the day before the effective
5 date of this subchapter” and inserting in lieu
6 thereof “July 13, 1991,”

7 (B) in subparagraph (B), by striking out
8 “the day before such effective date” and inserting
9 in lieu thereof “such date”; and

10 (C) in subparagraph (C), by striking out
11 “effective”.

12 (4) Section 7438(b) is amended—

13 (A) in paragraph (2)(A)—

14 (i) by striking out “the day before the
15 effective date of this section” and inserting
16 in lieu thereof “July 13, 1991,”; and

17 (ii) by striking out “the day before
18 such effective date” and inserting in lieu
19 thereof “such date”; and

20 (B) in paragraph (2)(B)—

21 (i) by striking out “the day before the
22 effective date of this section” and inserting
23 in lieu thereof “July 13, 1991”; and

1 (ii) by striking out “the effective date
2 of this section” and inserting in lieu thereof
3 “such date”;

4 (C) in paragraph (4)—

5 (i) by striking out “the effective date of
6 this section” and inserting in lieu thereof
7 “July 14, 1991”; and

8 (ii) by striking out “effective” after
9 “before such”; and

10 (D) in paragraph (5), by striking out “the
11 effective date of this section” in subparagraphs
12 (A) and (B) and inserting in lieu thereof “July
13 14, 1991”.

14 (5) Section 7438(c) is amended by striking out
15 “the day before the effective date of the Department
16 of Veterans Affairs Physician and Dentist Recruit-
17 ment and Retention Act of 1991” and inserting in
18 lieu thereof “July 13, 1991”.

19 **SEC. 10. PURCHASES OF PHARMACEUTICAL PRODUCTS.**

20 Section 8125 of title 38, United States Code, is amend-
21 ed—

22 (1) by redesignating subsection (e) as subsection
23 (f); and

24 (2) by inserting after subsection (d) the following
25 new subsection (e):

1 “(e)(1) A drug, pharmaceutical or biological product,
2 or hematology-related product that is listed on the pharma-
3 ceutical supply schedule described in section 8126(a) of this
4 title may only be procured or ordered from that supply
5 schedule by or for any entity specified in paragraph (2),
6 notwithstanding any other provision of law (whether en-
7 acted before, on, or after the date of the enactment of this
8 subsection).

9 “(2) An entity specified in this paragraph is (A) any
10 agency or instrumentality of the Federal Government, or
11 (B) any other entity that is specified in Federal law or
12 regulation, as in effect before July 1, 1997, as eligible to
13 procure or order drugs, pharmaceutical or biological prod-
14 ucts, or hematology-related products from such pharma-
15 ceutical supply schedule.”.

16 **SEC. 11. TECHNICAL AMENDMENTS.**

17 (a) *SECTION REFERENCE.*—Section 1717(a)(2)(B) of
18 title 38, United States Code, is amended by striking out
19 “section 1710(a)(2)” and inserting in lieu thereof “section
20 1710(a)”.

21 (b) *HOSPITAL REFERENCE.*—The Wm. Jennings
22 Bryan Dorn Veterans’ Hospital in Columbia, South Caro-
23 lina, shall hereafter be known and designated as the “Wm.
24 Jennings Bryan Dorn Department of Veterans Affairs Med-
25 ical Center”. Any reference to such hospital in any law,

1 *regulation, document, map, record, or other paper of the*
2 *United States shall be deemed to be a reference to the Wm.*
3 *Jennings Bryan Dorn Department of Veterans Affairs Med-*
4 *ical Center.*