

Union Calendar No. 283

115TH CONGRESS 1ST SESSION

H.R.3562

[Report No. 115-386]

To amend title 38, United States Code, to authorize the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to furnish assistance for adaptations of residences of veterans in rehabilitation programs under chapter 31 of such title, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

July 28, 2017

Mr. Arrington (for himself, Mr. O'Rourke, Miss González-Colón of Puerto Rico, and Mr. Dunn) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs

NOVEMBER 6, 2017

Committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union and ordered to be printed

A BILL

To amend title 38, United States Code, to authorize the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to furnish assistance for adaptations of residences of veterans in rehabilitation programs under chapter 31 of such title, 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. IMPROVEMENTS TO AUTHORITIES FOR PROVI-
- 4 SION OF ASSISTANCE FOR ADAPTATIONS OF
- 5 RESIDENCES OF VETERANS IN REHABILITA-
- 6 TION PROGRAMS.
- 7 (a) In General.—Chapter 21 of title 38, United
- 8 States Code, is amended by inserting after section 2102A
- 9 the following new section:
- 10 "§ 2102B. Adaptations to residences of veterans in re-
- 11 habilitation programs
- 12 "(a) IN GENERAL.—Subject to subsections (b) and
- 13 (c), the Secretary may assist a veteran who is entitled to
- 14 services and assistance under chapter 31 of this title and
- 15 is pursuing a rehabilitation program under such chapter
- 16 in acquiring such adaptations to such veteran's residence
- 17 as are determined necessary by the Secretary to accom-
- 18 plish the purposes of such rehabilitation program.
- 19 "(b) Amount.—(1) The aggregate amount of assist-
- 20 ance available to a veteran under subsection (a) may not
- 21 exceed \$77,307. The Secretary may waive this limitation
- 22 for a veteran if the Secretary determines a waiver is nec-
- 23 essary for the rehabilitation program of the veteran.
- 24 "(2) Effective on October 1 of each year (beginning
- 25 in 2017), the Secretary shall increase the amount de-

- 1 scribed in paragraph (1) by the percentage calculated
- 2 under section 2102(e)(2) of this title.
- 3 "(3) Beginning on October 1, 2019, the Secretary
- 4 shall submit to the Committees on Veterans' Affairs of
- 5 the Senate and House of Representatives a biennial report
- 6 on the use of the waiver authority under paragraph (1).
- 7 "(c) Regulations.—The Secretary shall prescribe
- 8 such regulations as may be necessary to carry out this
- 9 section.
- 10 "(d) Rehabilitation Program Defined.—In this
- 11 section, the term 'rehabilitation program' has the meaning
- 12 given such term in section 3101 of this title.".
- 13 (b) REGULATIONS.—The Secretary may provide as-
- 14 sistance under section 2102B of such title, as added by
- 15 subsection (a), in advance of regulations by issuing notice
- 16 specifying the criteria for the application, approval, and
- 17 oversight processes relating to the provision of assistance
- 18 under such section.
- 19 (c) Conforming Amendments.—
- 20 (1) Scope of services and assistance for
- 21 TRAINING AND REHABILITATION.—Section 3104 of
- such title is amended by adding at the end the fol-
- lowing new subsection:
- 24 "(d) The Secretary may not assist a veteran in ac-
- 25 quiring adaptations to the residence of the veteran under

1	this chapter. Any such assistance may be furnished only					
2	under section 2102B of this title.".					
3	(2) Members of the armed forces resu					
4	ING OUTSIDE THE UNITED STATES.—Section 2101					
5	of such title is amended—					
6	(A) by redesignating subsection (c) as sub					
7	section (d); and					
8	(B) by inserting after subsection (b) the					
9	following new subsection (e):					
10	"(c) Limitation.—Notwithstanding subsections (a)					
11	and (b), this section shall not apply to the provision of					
12	assistance under section 2102B of this title.".					
13	(3) Benefits additional to benefits					
14	UNDER OTHER LAWS.—Section 2104 of such title is					
15	amended—					
16	(A) in subsection (a), by striking "; how-					
17	ever" and all that follows through "once";					
18	(B) in subsection (b), by striking the sec-					
19	ond sentence; and					
20	(C) by adding at the end the following new					
21	subsection:					
22	"(c) The Secretary may not provide assistance to a					
23	veteran under this chapter if the Secretary determines					
24	such assistance would result in a duplication of benefit					
25	under this title to the veteran.".					

1	(4) Exception to mandatory life insur-					
2	ANCE.—Section 2106(a) of such title is amended to					
3	read as follows:					
4	"(a) The Secretary shall insure any individual under					
5	70 years of age who has received assistance under this					
6	chapter against the death of the individual except for ar					
7	individual who—					
8	"(1) elects in writing to not receive insurance					
9	under this section;					
10	"(2) fails to respond in a timely manner to					
11	request from the Secretary for information on which					
12	the premium for such insurance can be based; or					
13	"(3) receives such assistance under section					
14	2102B of this title.".					
15	(d) Clerical Amendment.—The table of sections					
16	at the beginning of chapter 21 of such title is amende					
17	by inserting after the item relating to section 2102A the					
18	following new item:					

"2102B. Adaptations to residences of veterans in rehabilitation programs.".

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115TH CONGRESS H. R. 3562

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