117TH CONGRESS 2D SESSION

H. R. 8003

To amend title 38, United States Code, to permanently authorize the use of certain funds to improve flexibility in the provision of assistance to homeless veterans, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

June 9, 2022

Mrs. Cherfilus-McCormick (for herself and Ms. Wilson of Florida) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs

A BILL

To amend title 38, United States Code, to permanently authorize the use of certain funds to improve flexibility in the provision of assistance to 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 "Restore Veterans Dig-
- 5 nity Act of 2022".

1	SEC. 2. AUTHORIZATION OF USE OF CERTAIN FUNDS FOR
2	IMPROVED FLEXIBILITY IN ASSISTANCE TO
3	HOMELESS VETERANS.
4	Subtitle VII of chapter 20 of title 38, United States
5	Code, is amended by adding at the end the following new
6	section (and conforming the table of sections at the begin-
7	ning of such chapter accordingly):
8	"§ 2068. Flexibility in provision of assistance to home-
9	less veterans
10	"(a) USE OF FUNDS.—The Secretary of Veterans Af-
11	fairs may use amounts appropriated or otherwise made
12	available to the Department of Veterans Affairs to carry
13	out section 2011, 2012, 2031, or 2061 of this chapter to
14	provide to homeless veterans and veterans participating in
15	the program carried out under section 8(o)(19) of the
16	United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C.
17	1437f(o)(19)), as the Secretary determines necessary, the
18	following:
19	"(1) Assistance required for the safety and sur-
20	vival of the veteran (such as food, shelter, clothing,
21	blankets, and hygiene items).
22	"(2) Transportation required to support the
23	stability and health of the veteran (such as transpor-
24	tation for appointments with service providers, the
25	conduct of housing searches, and the obtainment of
26	food and supplies).

1	"(3) Communications equipment and services
2	(such as tablets, smartphones, disposable phones,
3	and related service plans) required to support the
4	stability and health of the veteran (such as through
5	the maintenance of contact with service providers,
6	prospective landlords, and family members).

- 7 "(4) Such other assistance as the Secretary de-8 termines necessary.
- 9 "(b) Homeless Veterans on Department 10 Land.—(1) The Secretary may collaborate, to the extent 11 practicable, with one or more organizations to manage the 12 use of land of the Department for homeless veterans for 13 living and sleeping.
- "(2) Collaboration under paragraph (1) may include the provision by either the Secretary or the head of the organization concerned of food services and security for property, buildings, and other facilities owned or controlled by the Department.".