

114TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 3960

To provide for a survey regarding homeless female veterans, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NOVEMBER 5, 2015

Mr. CASTRO of Texas (for himself, Mr. COFFMAN, and Mr. DENHAM) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Financial Services, and in addition to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

A BILL

To provide for a survey regarding homeless female 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 “Reduce Homelessness
5 for Female Veterans Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. SURVEY OF HOMELESS FEMALE VETERANS.**

7 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 4 months after the
8 date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Hous-

1 ing and Urban Development and the Secretary of Veterans
2 Affairs shall enter into a contract to conduct a survey of
3 a statistically valid sample of female veterans who are
4 homeless.

5 (b) SURVEY DESIGN.—The Secretaries shall design
6 the survey required by subsection (a) to collect the fol-
7 lowing types of information about each individual sur-
8 veyed, where applicable:

9 (1) Demographic information, including the
10 age, race, marital status, level of educational attain-
11 ment, and military occupational specialty of the indi-
12 vidual while serving in the Armed Forces.

13 (2) Number of years of military service, deploy-
14 ment, and service-connected disability (if any).

15 (3) Whether the individual has any children,
16 and whether any of the children require special as-
17 sistance.

18 (4) Number of years of homelessness.

19 (5) The nature and extent of the individual's
20 experience with the Department of Veterans Affairs,
21 the Department of Housing and Urban Develop-
22 ment, and any organization that receives any discre-
23 tionary appropriations, direct spending, or grants
24 from either of the departments.

25 (6) The employment status of the individual.

1 (7) Such other matters the Secretaries deter-
2 mine appropriate.

3 (c) SUBMISSION OF A MODEL OF THE SURVEY.—Not
4 later than 1 month before the collection of data under the
5 survey begins, the Secretaries shall submit a model of the
6 survey designed under subsection (b) to the Committee on
7 Veterans' Affairs of the House of Representatives, the
8 Committee on Veterans' Affairs of the Senate, the Com-
9 mittee on Financial Services of the House of Representa-
10 tives, and the Committee on Banking, Housing, and
11 Urban Affairs of the Senate.

12 (d) SURVEY COMPLETION.—The contractor shall—

13 (1) conduct the survey required by subsection
14 (a) by electronic means and by any other means the
15 contractor determines appropriate; and

16 (2) submit the results of the completed survey
17 to the Secretaries not later than 6 months after en-
18 tering into the contract required by subsection (a).

19 (e) REPORT.—Not later than 90 days after the con-
20 tractor has submitted the results of the survey required
21 by this section, the Secretaries shall submit to the Com-
22 mittee on Veterans' Affairs of the House of Representa-
23 tives, the Committee on Veterans' Affairs of the Senate,
24 the Committee on Financial Services of the House of Rep-
25 resentatives, and the Committee on Banking, Housing,

1 and Urban Affairs of the Senate, a report on the results
2 of the survey and any recommendations of the Secretaries
3 relating to such results. The report shall also include the
4 raw data of the survey results.

5 (f) PUBLIC AVAILABILITY OF DATA.—Not later than
6 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the
7 Secretaries shall publish, and make available to the public,
8 a report containing the data collected under subsection
9 (d).

10 **SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.**

11 For purposes of this Act, the following definitions
12 shall apply:

13 (1) The term “veteran” has the meaning given
14 such term in section 101(2) of title 38, United
15 States Code.

16 (2) The term “homeless” has the meaning
17 given such term in section 103(a) of the McKinney-
18 Vento Homeless Assistance Act (42 U.S.C.
19 11302(a)).

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