

## HR 4768

Veterans Health Programs and Facilities Enhancement Act of 2004

**Congress:** 108 (2003–2005, Ended)

**Chamber:** House

**Policy Area:** Armed Forces and National Security

**Introduced:** Jul 7, 2004

**Current Status:** Received in the Senate.

**Latest Action:** Received in the Senate. (Sep 30, 2004)

**Official Text:** <https://www.congress.gov/bill/108th-congress/house-bill/4768>

### Sponsor

**Name:** Rep. Simmons, Rob [R-CT-2]

**Party:** Republican • **State:** CT • **Chamber:** House

### Cosponsors (8 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Beauprez, Bob [R-CO-7]	R · CO		Jul 7, 2004
Rep. Evans, Lane [D-IL-17]	D · IL		Jul 7, 2004
Rep. Filner, Bob [D-CA-51]	D · CA		Jul 7, 2004
Rep. Miller, Jeff [R-FL-1]	R · FL		Jul 7, 2004
Rep. Rodriguez, Ciro D. [D-TX-28]	D · TX		Jul 7, 2004
Rep. Smith, Christopher H. [R-NJ-4]	R · NJ		Jul 7, 2004
Rep. Stearns, Cliff [R-FL-6]	R · FL		Jul 7, 2004
Rep. Turner, Michael R. [R-OH-3]	R · OH		Jul 22, 2004

### Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Veterans' Affairs Committee	House	Reported by	Jul 8, 2004

### Subjects & Policy Tags

#### Policy Area:

Armed Forces and National Security

### Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
108 HR 4248	Procedurally related	<b>Oct 7, 2004:</b> Received in the Senate.

Veterans Health Programs and Facilities Enhancement Act of 2004 - **Title I: Medical Facilities Management** - (Sec. 101) Authorizes the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to enter into contracts for major medical facility leases at specified locations. Authorizes appropriations for FY 2005 for the Medical Care account, to cover such leases.

Authorizes the Secretary to enter into a lease for real property at the Fitzsimons Campus of the University of Colorado for a period of up to 75 years.

(Sec. 102) Authorizes the Secretary to transfer Department of Veterans Affairs real property to another department or agency of the United States, to a State, or to any public or private entity, including Indian tribes. Terminates such authority seven years after the enactment of this Act.

Establishes in the Treasury the Department of Veterans Affairs Capital Asset Fund, which may be used for costs associated with: (1) current or future real property transfers under this Act; (2) the improvement of patient care facilities for veterans; and (3) the transfer, lease, or adaptive use of properties listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Authorizes appropriations for the Fund.

Terminates the nursing home revolving fund. Transfers unobligated balances to the Capital Asset Fund.

(Sec. 103) Requires a report from the Secretary to the congressional veterans' committees, in each of 2005 through 2007, on historic properties administered or controlled by the Secretary.

(Sec. 104) Authorizes the use of certain Department funds for the construction or relocation of surface parking lots incidental to construction or maintenance projects.

(Sec. 105) Removes the congressional review requirement otherwise applicable to the obligation of funds for major medical facilities where funds have been authorized by law.

(Se. 106) Specifies that the construction, alteration, repair, remodeling, or improvement of property under an enhanced-use lease is not subject to State or local land use laws unless otherwise provided by the Secretary.

(Sec. 107) Amends the Veterans Millennium Health Care and Benefits Act to extend through 2005 the authority for long-term care pilot programs established under such Act.

**Title II: Other Matters** - (Sec. 201) Makes eligible for use of the Veterans' Canteen Service veterans enrolled in the Department's patient enrollment system.

(Sec. 202) Directs the Secretary, within 90 days after the enactment of this Act, to establish a peer review panel to assess the scientific and clinical merits of various proposed sites for designation as Department medical emergency preparedness centers. Requires the: (1) Secretary to solicit proposals for such designation within 60 days after enactment of this Act; and (2) peer review panel to complete proposal review within 60 days thereafter. Authorizes appropriations for such centers for FY 2005 through 2007. Requires the Under Secretary for Health to allocate certain other Department funds for such centers.

## Actions Timeline

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- **Sep 30, 2004:** Received in the Senate.
- **Sep 29, 2004:** Mr. Smith (NJ) moved to suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended.
- **Sep 29, 2004:** Considered under suspension of the rules. (consideration: CR H7790-7796)
- **Sep 29, 2004:** DEBATE - The House proceeded with forty minutes of debate on H.R. 4768.
- **Sep 29, 2004:** Passed/agreed to in House: On motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended Agreed to by voice vote.(text: CR H7790-7792)
- **Sep 29, 2004:** On motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended Agreed to by voice vote. (text: CR H7790-7792)
- **Sep 29, 2004:** Motion to reconsider laid on the table Agreed to without objection.
- **Sep 29, 2004:** The title of the measure was amended. Agreed to without objection.
- **Sep 8, 2004:** Report amended to the House. H. Rept. 108-663.
- **Sep 8, 2004:** -Provisions incorporated. See H. R. 4248, as amended, Sections 203, 303, 401, 403, 411, 412, 413, 415, 416, 417, and 603.
- **Sep 8, 2004:** Reported (Amended) by the Committee on Veterans' Affairs. H. Rept. 108-663.
- **Sep 8, 2004:** Placed on the Union Calendar, Calendar No. 403.
- **Jul 21, 2004:** Committee Consideration and Mark-up Session Held.
- **Jul 21, 2004:** Ordered to be Reported (Amended) by Voice Vote.
- **Jul 8, 2004:** Sponsor introductory remarks on measure. (CR E1315-1316)
- **Jul 8, 2004:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Health.
- **Jul 8, 2004:** Subcommittee Consideration and Mark-up Session Held.
- **Jul 8, 2004:** Forwarded by Subcommittee to Full Committee by Voice Vote.
- **Jul 7, 2004:** Introduced in House
- **Jul 7, 2004:** Referred to the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

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