

S 3898

Homeless Veterans Coronavirus Response Act of 2020

Congress: 116 (2019–2021, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Armed Forces and National Security

Introduced: Jun 4, 2020

Current Status: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

Latest Action: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs. (Jun 4, 2020)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/senate-bill/3898>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Sullivan, Dan [R-AK]

Party: Republican • **State:** AK • **Chamber:** Senate

Cosponsors (25 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Blumenthal, Richard [D-CT]	D · CT		Jun 4, 2020
Sen. Capito, Shelley Moore [R-WV]	R · WV		Jun 4, 2020
Sen. Collins, Susan M. [R-ME]	R · ME		Jun 4, 2020
Sen. Cramer, Kevin [R-ND]	R · ND		Jun 4, 2020
Sen. Crapo, Mike [R-ID]	R · ID		Jun 4, 2020
Sen. Cruz, Ted [R-TX]	R · TX		Jun 4, 2020
Sen. Ernst, Joni [R-IA]	R · IA		Jun 4, 2020
Sen. Feinstein, Dianne [D-CA]	D · CA		Jun 4, 2020
Sen. Gillibrand, Kirsten E. [D-NY]	D · NY		Jun 4, 2020
Sen. Hassan, Margaret Wood [D-NH]	D · NH		Jun 4, 2020
Sen. Hirono, Mazie K. [D-HI]	D · HI		Jun 4, 2020
Sen. Hoeven, John [R-ND]	R · ND		Jun 4, 2020
Sen. Kaine, Tim [D-VA]	D · VA		Jun 4, 2020
Sen. Loeffler, Kelly [R-GA]	R · GA		Jun 4, 2020
Sen. McSally, Martha [R-AZ]	R · AZ		Jun 4, 2020
Sen. Moran, Jerry [R-KS]	R · KS		Jun 4, 2020
Sen. Risch, James E. [R-ID]	R · ID		Jun 4, 2020
Sen. Shaheen, Jeanne [D-NH]	D · NH		Jun 4, 2020
Sen. Sinema, Kyrsten [D-AZ]	D · AZ		Jun 4, 2020
Sen. Tester, Jon [D-MT]	D · MT		Jun 4, 2020
Sen. Tillis, Thomas [R-NC]	R · NC		Jun 4, 2020
Sen. Braun, Mike [R-IN]	R · IN		Jun 8, 2020
Sen. Murkowski, Lisa [R-AK]	R · AK		Jun 10, 2020
Sen. Perdue, David [R-GA]	R · GA		Sep 8, 2020
Sen. Rosen, Jacky [D-NV]	D · NV		Dec 15, 2020

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Veterans' Affairs Committee	Senate	Referred To	Jun 4, 2020

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Armed Forces and National Security

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
116 HR 7105	Identical bill	Jan 5, 2021: Became Public Law No: 116-315.

Homeless Veterans Coronavirus Response Act of 2020

This bill addresses the administration of Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) programs and benefits for homeless veterans during the COVID-19 (i.e., coronavirus disease 2019) public health emergency.

During the COVID-19 public health emergency, the bill authorizes the VA to

- reallocate specified grant funds to provide homeless veterans and veterans participating in the Department of Housing and Urban Development-VA Supportive Housing (HUD-VASH) program with transportation, assistance required for safety and survival, and communications equipment and services;
- collaborate with organizations to manage use of VA land for homeless veterans for living and sleeping;
- provide a maximum rate, in certain situations, for per diem payments that is three times the rate authorized for state homes for domiciliary care;
- provide amounts for additional transitional housing beds to facilitate access to housing and services provided to homeless veterans; and
- waive certain inspection and safety code requirements to allow grant recipients and therapeutic housing facilities to make adjustments (e.g., facilitating social distancing or isolation needs).

Per diem payments may be used to provide assistance required for safety and survival (e.g., food) for homeless veterans and formerly homeless veterans residing in a facility operated by a grant recipient or entity that receives per diem payments for furnishing services to homeless veterans.

Finally, the bill requires the VA to ensure that veterans participating in or receiving services under a program for homeless veterans have access to telehealth services. The VA must ensure telehealth capabilities are available to such veterans, VA case managers, and community-based service providers.

Actions Timeline

- **Jun 4, 2020:** Introduced in Senate
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