

111TH CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

H. R. 5360

AN ACT

To amend title 38, United States Code, to make certain improvements in the laws administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, 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,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.**

2 (a) **SHORT TITLE.**—This Act may be cited as the
 3 “Housing, Employment, and Living Programs for Vet-
 4 erans Act of 2010” or the “HELP Veterans Act of 2010”.

5 (b) **TABLE OF CONTENTS.**—The table of contents for
 6 this Act is as follows:

- Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.
- Sec. 2. References to title 38, United States Code.
- Sec. 3. Modification of standard of visual acuity required for eligibility for specially adapted housing assistance provided by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs.
- Sec. 4. Authorities regarding housing loans guaranteed by the Department of Veterans Affairs.
- Sec. 5. Reauthorization and improvement of Department of Veterans Affairs small business loan program.
- Sec. 6. Assistance for flight training.
- Sec. 7. Seven-year increase in amount of assistance for individuals pursuing apprenticeships or on-job training.
- Sec. 8. Extension of authority for certain qualifying work-study activities for purposes of the educational assistance programs of the Department of Veterans Affairs.
- Sec. 9. Expansion of work-study allowance to include certain outreach services conducted through congressional offices.
- Sec. 10. Temporary reduction of required amount of wages for on-the-job training programs.
- Sec. 11. Reauthorization of Veterans’ Advisory Committee on Education.
- Sec. 12. Homeless women veterans and homeless veterans with children reintegration grant program.
- Sec. 13. Technology review and grant program.
- Sec. 14. Child care; President’s Budget.
- Sec. 15. Increase in amount of reporting fee payable to educational institutions that enroll veterans receiving educational assistance.
- Sec. 16. Modification of advance payment of initial educational assistance or subsistence allowance.
- Sec. 17. Increase in amount of subsistence allowance payable to veterans participating in vocational rehabilitation program.
- Sec. 18. Expansion of availability of employment assistance allowance for veterans using employment services.
- Sec. 19. Promoting jobs for veterans teaching in rural areas.
- Sec. 20. Promoting jobs for veterans through the establishment of an internship program.
- Sec. 21. Veterans entrepreneurial development summit.
- Sec. 22. Increase in the maximum amount of specially adapted housing assistance authorized to be provided by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs.
- Sec. 23. Department of Veterans Affairs housing loans for construction of energy efficient dwellings.

Sec. 24. Pilot program on specially adapted housing assistance for veterans residing temporarily in housing owned by a family member.

Sec. 25. Compliance with Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010.

1 **SEC. 2. REFERENCES TO TITLE 38, UNITED STATES CODE.**

2 Except as otherwise expressly provided, whenever in
3 this Act an amendment or repeal is expressed in terms
4 of an amendment to, or a repeal of, a section or other
5 provision, the reference shall be considered to be made to
6 a section or other provision of title 38, United States
7 Code.

8 **SEC. 3. MODIFICATION OF STANDARD OF VISUAL ACUITY**
9 **REQUIRED FOR ELIGIBILITY FOR SPECIALLY**
10 **ADAPTED HOUSING ASSISTANCE PROVIDED**
11 **BY THE SECRETARY OF VETERANS AFFAIRS.**

12 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 2101(b)(2)(A) is amend-
13 ed by striking “with 5/200” and all that follows through
14 the period and inserting the following: “with central visual
15 acuity of 20/200 or less in the better eye with the use
16 of standard correcting lenses (for purposes of this sub-
17 paragraph, an eye which is accompanied by a limitation
18 in the fields of vision such that the widest diameter of
19 the visual field subtends an angle no greater than 20 de-
20 grees shall be treated as having a central visual acuity of
21 20/200 or less).”.

22 (b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by
23 subsection (a) shall apply with respect to specially adapted

1 housing assistance provided on or after the date of the
2 enactment of this Act.

3 **SEC. 4. AUTHORITIES REGARDING HOUSING LOANS GUAR-**
4 **ANTEED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS**
5 **AFFAIRS.**

6 (a) COVENANTS AND LIENS IN RESPONSE TO DIS-
7 ASTER-RELIEF ASSISTANCE.—Paragraph (3) of section
8 3703(d) is amended to read as follows:

9 “(3)(A) Any real estate housing loan (other than for
10 repairs, alterations, or improvements) shall be secured by
11 a first lien on the realty. In determining whether a loan
12 is so secured, the Secretary may either disregard or allow
13 for subordination to a superior lien that—

14 “(i) is created by a duly recorded covenant run-
15 ning with the realty in favor of—

16 “(I) a public entity that provides assist-
17 ance in response to a major disaster as deter-
18 mined by the President under the Robert T.
19 Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assist-
20 ance Act (42 U.S.C. 5121 et seq.); or

21 “(II) a private entity to secure an obliga-
22 tion to such entity for the homeowner’s share of
23 the costs of the management, operation, or
24 maintenance of property, services, or programs
25 within and for the benefit of the development or

1 community in which the veteran’s realty is lo-
2 cated; and

3 “(ii) the Secretary determines will not prejudice
4 the interests of the veteran borrower and of the Gov-
5 ernment by the operation of such a covenant.

6 “(B) In respect to a superior lien described by sub-
7 paragraph (A) that is created after June 6, 1969, the Sec-
8 retary’s determination must have been made prior to the
9 recordation of the covenant.”.

10 (b) EXTENSION OF AUTHORITY TO POOL LOANS.—
11 Paragraph (2) of section 3720(h) is amended by striking
12 “2011” and inserting “2016”.

13 **SEC. 5. REAUTHORIZATION AND IMPROVEMENT OF DE-**
14 **PARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS SMALL**
15 **BUSINESS LOAN PROGRAM.**

16 (a) REAUTHORIZATION.—

17 (1) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 37 is amended by
18 striking section 3751.

19 (2) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sec-
20 tions at the beginning of such chapter is amended
21 by striking the item relating to section 3751.

22 (b) EXPANSION OF ELIGIBILITY FOR SMALL BUSI-
23 NESS LOANS.—Chapter 37 is further amended—

24 (1) in section 3741, by striking paragraph (2);
25 and

1 (2) in section 3742(a)(3)(A), by striking “vet-
2 erans of the Vietnam era or”.

3 (c) REPEAL OF AUTHORITY TO MAKE DIRECT
4 LOANS.—Chapter 37, as amended by subsections (a) and
5 (b), is further amended—

6 (1) in section 3742—

7 (A) in subsection (a)—

8 (i) in paragraph (2), by striking “(A)
9 loan guaranties, or (B) direct loans” and
10 inserting “loan guaranties”; and

11 (ii) in paragraph (3)(A), by striking
12 “and that at least 51 percent of a business
13 concern must be owned by disabled vet-
14 erans in order for such concern to qualify
15 for a direct loan”;

16 (B) in subsection (b)—

17 (i) by striking paragraph (1) and re-
18 designating paragraphs (2) through (4) as
19 paragraphs (1) through (3), respectively;
20 and

21 (ii) in paragraph (2), as so redesign-
22 ated, by striking “make or”;

23 (C) in subsection (c), by striking “made
24 or”;

25 (D) in subsection (d)—

1 (i) by striking paragraph (2);

2 (ii) by striking “(1) Except as pro-
3 vided in paragraph (2) of this subsection,
4 the” and inserting “The”; and

5 (iii) by striking “make or”; and

6 (E) in subsection (e)—

7 (i) in paragraph (1)—

8 (I) in the first sentence, by strik-
9 ing “or, if the loan was a direct loan
10 made by the Secretary, may suspend
11 such obligation”; and

12 (II) in the second sentence, by
13 striking “or while such obligation is
14 suspended”;

15 (ii) by striking “or suspend” each
16 place it appears;

17 (iii) by striking “or suspension” each
18 place it appears;

19 (iv) by striking “or suspends” each
20 place it appears; and

21 (v) in paragraph (4), by striking “or
22 suspended” each place it appears;

23 (2) in section 3743—

24 (A) by striking “that is provided a direct
25 loan under this subchapter, or”;

1 (B) by striking the comma between “sub-
2 chapter” and “shall”;

3 (C) by striking “direct or”; and

4 (D) by striking “for the amount of such
5 direct loan or, in the case of a guaranteed
6 loan,”;

7 (3) in section 3745—

8 (A) by striking “(a)”; and

9 (B) by striking subsection (b);

10 (4) in section 3746, by striking “made or” both
11 places it appears; and

12 (5) in section 3750, by striking “made or”.

13 (d) AUTHORITY TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT.—Sec-
14 tion 3742, as amended by subsection (c), is further
15 amended by adding at the end the following new sub-
16 section:

17 “(f) The Secretary shall enter into a contract with
18 an appropriate entity for the purpose of carrying out the
19 program under this subchapter.”.

20 (e) FUNDING.—Section 3742(b), as amended by sub-
21 section (c), is further amended by adding at the end the
22 following new paragraph:

23 “(4) The Secretary may only guarantee a loan
24 under this subchapter to the extent that a limitation

1 commitment to guarantee loans for a fiscal year has
2 been provided in advance in an appropriations Act.”.

3 (f) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—

4 (1) IN GENERAL.—Section 3749 is amended to
5 read as follows:

6 **“§ 3749. Authorization of appropriations**

7 “There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out
8 this subchapter such sums as may be necessary.”.

9 (2) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sec-
10 tions at the beginning of chapter 37 is amended by
11 striking the item relating to section 3749 and insert-
12 ing the following new item:

“3749. Authorization of appropriations.”.

13 (g) LOAN FEE.—

14 (1) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 37 is further
15 amended by inserting after section 3749 the fol-
16 lowing new section:

17 **“§ 3749A. Loan Fee**

18 “(a) REQUIREMENT OF FEE.—(1) The Secretary
19 shall collect a fee from each veterans’ small business con-
20 cern obtaining a loan guaranteed under this subchapter.

21 “(2) No loan may be guaranteed under this sub-
22 chapter until the fee payable under this section has been
23 remitted to the Secretary.

24 “(3) The fee may be included in the loan guaranteed
25 under this subchapter and paid from the proceeds thereof.

1 “(b) DETERMINATION OF FEE.—The amount of the
2 fee shall be the full cost of the loan guarantee plus an
3 additional amount determined by the Secretary as suffi-
4 cient to cover applicable administrative expenses.”.

5 (2) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sec-
6 tions at the beginning of such chapter is amended
7 by inserting after the item relating to section 3749
8 the following new item:

“3749A. Loan fee.”.

9 (h) DEFINITIONS.—Section 3741 is amended by add-
10 ing at the end the following new paragraphs:

11 “(2) The term ‘cost ’ has the meaning given the
12 term ‘cost of a loan guarantee’ within the meaning
13 of section 502(5)(C) of the Federal Credit Reform
14 Act of 1990 (2 U.S.C. 661a(5)(C)).

15 “(3) The term ‘guarantee’—

16 “(A) has the meaning given the term ‘loan
17 guarantee’ in section 502 of the Federal Credit
18 Reform Act of 1990 (2 U.S.C. 661a); and

19 “(B) includes a loan guarantee commit-
20 ment (as defined in section 502 of the Federal
21 Credit Reform Act of 1990 (2 U.S.C. 661a)).

22 “(4) The term ‘obligation’ means the loan or
23 other debt obligation that is guaranteed under this
24 subchapter.”.

1 **SEC. 6. ASSISTANCE FOR FLIGHT TRAINING.**

2 Subsection (e)(1) of section 3032 is amended by
3 striking “60 percent” and inserting “75 percent”.

4 **SEC. 7. SEVEN-YEAR INCREASE IN AMOUNT OF ASSISTANCE**
5 **FOR INDIVIDUALS PURSUING APPRENTICE-**
6 **SHIPS OR ON-JOB TRAINING.**

7 During the seven-year period beginning on the date
8 of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Veterans
9 Affairs shall apply—

10 (1) section 3032(c)(1) of title 38, United States
11 Code—

12 (A) in subparagraph (A), by substituting
13 “80 percent” for “75 percent”;

14 (B) in subparagraph (B), by substituting
15 “60 percent” for “55 percent”; and

16 (C) in subparagraph (C), by substituting
17 “40 percent” for “35 percent”;

18 (2) section 3233(a) of such title—

19 (A) in paragraph (1), by substituting “80
20 percent” for “75 percent”;

21 (B) in paragraph (2), by substituting “60
22 percent” for “55 percent”; and

23 (C) in paragraph (3), by substituting “40
24 percent” for “35 percent”;

25 (3) section 3687(b)(2) of such title—

26 (A) by substituting “\$603” for “\$574”;

1 (B) by substituting “\$450” for “\$429”;

2 and

3 (C) by substituting “\$299” for “\$285”;

4 and

5 (4) section 16131(d)(1) of title 10, United
6 States Code—

7 (A) in subparagraph (A), by substituting
8 “80 percent” for “75 percent”;

9 (B) in subparagraph (B), by substituting
10 “60 percent” for “55 percent”; and

11 (C) in subparagraph (C), by substituting
12 “40 percent” for “35 percent”.

13 **SEC. 8. EXTENSION OF AUTHORITY FOR CERTAIN QUALI-**
14 **FYING WORK-STUDY ACTIVITIES FOR PUR-**
15 **POSES OF THE EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE**
16 **PROGRAMS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF VET-**
17 **ERANS AFFAIRS.**

18 Paragraph (4) of section 3485(a) is amended by
19 striking “June 30, 2010” each place it appears and insert-
20 ing “June 30, 2020”.

1 **SEC. 9. EXPANSION OF WORK-STUDY ALLOWANCE TO IN-**
2 **CLUDE CERTAIN OUTREACH SERVICES CON-**
3 **DUCTED THROUGH CONGRESSIONAL OF-**
4 **FICES.**

5 Section 3485(a)(4) is amended by adding at the end
6 the following new subparagraph:

7 “(G) The following activities carried out at the
8 offices of Members of Congress for such Members:

9 “(i) The distribution of information to
10 members of the Armed Forces, veterans, and
11 their dependents about the benefits and services
12 under laws administered by the Secretary and
13 other appropriate governmental and non-gov-
14 ernmental programs.

15 “(ii) The provision of assistance in
16 ascertaining the status of claims (including ap-
17 peals) for benefits under laws administered by
18 the Secretary, as well as other constituent serv-
19 ices for veterans as the Secretary determines
20 appropriate.”.

21 **SEC. 10. TEMPORARY REDUCTION OF REQUIRED AMOUNT**
22 **OF WAGES FOR ON-THE-JOB TRAINING PRO-**
23 **GRAMS.**

24 (a) IN GENERAL.—

1 (1) REDUCING REQUIREMENT.—Section
2 3677(b)(1)(A)(ii) is amended by striking “85 per
3 centum” and inserting “60 percent”.

4 (2) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made
5 by paragraph (1) shall take effect on October 1,
6 2010, and shall apply to a veteran who enrolls in a
7 program of training on the job approved under sec-
8 tion 3677 of title 38, United States Code, on or
9 after such date.

10 (b) SUNSET.—

11 (1) REVERSION.—Effective October 1, 2013,
12 section 3677(b)(1)(A)(ii) of such title, as amended
13 by subsection (a) of this section, is amended by
14 striking “60 percent” and inserting “85 percent”.

15 (2) APPLICATION.—The amendment made by
16 paragraph (1) shall apply to a veteran who enrolls
17 in a program of training on the job approved under
18 section 3677 of title 38, United States Code, on or
19 after October 1, 2013.

20 (c) GAO REPORT.—Not later than October 1, 2013,
21 the Comptroller General shall submit to the Committee
22 on Veterans’ Affairs of the House of Representatives and
23 the Committee on Veterans’ Affairs of the Senate a report
24 on the effects of eliminating the requirement under section
25 3677(b)(1)(A)(ii) of title 38, United States Code, for a

1 private employer to provide wage increases to veterans en-
2 rolled in a program of training on the job approved under
3 section 3677 of such title.

4 **SEC. 11. REAUTHORIZATION OF VETERANS' ADVISORY**
5 **COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION.**

6 Section 3692(c) is amended by striking “December
7 31, 2009” and inserting “December 31, 2020”.

8 **SEC. 12. HOMELESS WOMEN VETERANS AND HOMELESS**
9 **VETERANS WITH CHILDREN REINTEGRATION**
10 **GRANT PROGRAM.**

11 (a) GRANT PROGRAM.—Chapter 20 is amended by in-
12 serting after section 2021 the following new section:

13 **“§ 2021A. Homeless women veterans and homeless**
14 **veterans with children reintegration**
15 **grant program**

16 “(a) GRANTS.—Subject to the availability of appro-
17 priations provided for such purpose, the Secretary of
18 Labor shall make grants to programs and facilities that
19 the Secretary determines provide dedicated services for
20 homeless women veterans and homeless veterans with chil-
21 dren.

22 “(b) USE OF FUNDS.—Grants under this section
23 shall be used to provide job training, counseling, place-
24 ment services (including job readiness and literacy and
25 skills training) and child care services to expedite the re-

1 integration of homeless women veterans and homeless vet-
2 erans with children into the labor force.

3 “(c) REQUIREMENT TO MONITOR EXPENDITURES OF
4 FUNDS.—(1) The Secretary of Labor shall collect such in-
5 formation as that Secretary considers appropriate to mon-
6 itor and evaluate the distribution and expenditure of funds
7 appropriated to carry out this section. The information
8 shall include data with respect to the results or outcomes
9 of the services provided to each homeless veteran under
10 this section.

11 “(2) Information under paragraph (1) shall be fur-
12 nished in such form and manner as the Secretary of Labor
13 may specify.

14 “(d) ADMINISTRATION THROUGH THE ASSISTANT
15 SECRETARY OF LABOR FOR VETERANS’ EMPLOYMENT
16 AND TRAINING.—The Secretary of Labor shall carry out
17 this section through the Assistant Secretary of Labor for
18 Veterans’ Employment and Training.

19 “(e) BIENNIAL REPORT TO CONGRESS.—The Sec-
20 retary of Labor shall include as part of the report required
21 under section 2021(d) of this title an evaluation of the
22 grant program under this section, which shall include an
23 evaluation of services furnished to veterans under this sec-
24 tion and an analysis of the information collected under
25 subsection (c).

1 “(f) APPROPRIATED FUNDS.—(1) In addition to any
2 amount authorized to be appropriated to carry out section
3 2021 of this title, there is authorized to be appropriated
4 to carry out this section \$10,000,000 for each of fiscal
5 years 2011 through 2016.

6 “(2) Funds appropriated to carry out this section
7 shall remain available until expended. Funds obligated in
8 any fiscal year to carry out this section may be expended
9 in that fiscal year and the succeeding fiscal year.”.

10 (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections
11 at the beginning of such chapter is amended by inserting
12 after the item relating to section 2021 the following new
13 item:

“2021A. Homeless women veterans and homeless veterans with children re-
integration grant program.”.

14 **SEC. 13. TECHNOLOGY REVIEW AND GRANT PROGRAM.**

15 (a) REVIEW AND EVALUATION OF NEW TECH-
16 NOLOGY.—The Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall estab-
17 lish a team of individuals from appropriate disciplines to
18 be responsible for reviewing new technologies, processes,
19 and products and for determining which such technologies,
20 processes, and products may be beneficial to the Depart-
21 ment of Veterans Affairs or to the veterans served by the
22 Department. Upon completion of the review under this
23 subsection, the team shall submit the review to the Sec-

1 retary, who shall disseminate the review within the De-
2 partment, as appropriate.

3 (b) SPECIALLY ADAPTED HOUSING ASSISTIVE TECH-
4 NOLOGY GRANT PROGRAM.—

5 (1) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 21 is amended by
6 adding at the end the following new section:

7 **“§ 2108. Specially adapted housing assistive tech-
8 nology grant program**

9 “(a) AUTHORITY TO MAKE GRANTS.—The Secretary
10 shall make grants to encourage the development of new
11 assistive technologies for specially adapted housing.

12 “(b) APPLICATION.—A person or entity seeking a
13 grant under this section shall submit to the Secretary an
14 application for the grant in such form and manner as the
15 Secretary shall specify.

16 “(c) GRANT FUNDS.—Each grant awarded under
17 this section shall be in an amount of not more than
18 \$250,000 per year.

19 “(d) USE OF FUNDS.—The recipient of a grant under
20 this section shall use the grant to develop assistive tech-
21 nologies for use in specially adapted housing.

22 “(e) REPORT.—Not later than March 1 of each year
23 following a year in which the Secretary makes a grant,
24 the Secretary shall submit to Congress a report containing

1 information related to each grant awarded under this sec-
 2 tion during the preceding calendar year, including—

3 “(1) the name of the grant recipient;

4 “(2) the amount of the grant; and

5 “(3) the goal of the grant.

6 “(f) FUNDING.—From amounts authorized to be ap-
 7 propriated to the Department for each fiscal year for
 8 which the Secretary is authorized to make a grant under
 9 this section, \$1,500,000 shall be available for that fiscal
 10 year for the purposes of the program under this section.

11 “(g) TERMINATION.—The authority to make a grant
 12 under this section shall terminate on the date that is five
 13 years after the date of the enactment of this section.”.

14 (2) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sec-
 15 tions at the beginning of such chapter is amended
 16 by adding at the end the following new item:

“2108. Specially adapted housing assistive technology grant program.”.

17 (3) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The Secretary of Vet-
 18 erans Affairs shall begin making grants under sec-
 19 tion 2108 of title 38, United States Code, as added
 20 by paragraph (1), by not later than 1 year after the
 21 date of the enactment of this Act.

22 **SEC. 14. CHILD CARE; PRESIDENT’S BUDGET.**

23 (a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 31 is amended by adding
 24 at the end the following new sections:

1 **“§ 3123. Child care assistance for single parents**

2 “(a) IN GENERAL.—Pursuant to regulations pre-
3 scribed by the Secretary to carry out this section, the Sec-
4 retary shall provide reimbursements for the actual cost of
5 child care provided by a licensed provider to a veteran
6 who—

7 “(1) is participating in a vocational rehabilita-
8 tion program under this chapter;

9 “(2) is the sole caretaker of a child; and

10 “(3) would not otherwise be able to afford such
11 child care.

12 “(b) AMOUNT AND DURATION.—The amount of the
13 reimbursement for the actual cost for child care under this
14 section shall be not more than \$2,000 per month for each
15 month the veteran is participating in a vocational rehabili-
16 tation program under this chapter.

17 **“§ 3124. Information included in support of Presi-
18 dent’s budget**

19 “The Secretary shall include in documents submitted
20 to Congress by the Secretary in support of the President’s
21 budget for each fiscal year submitted under section 1105
22 of title 31, United States Code, the following:

23 “(1) For the calendar year preceding the sub-
24 mission—

1 (c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by
2 subsections (a) and (b) shall take effect on January 1,
3 2011.

4 **SEC. 16. MODIFICATION OF ADVANCE PAYMENT OF INITIAL**
5 **EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE OR SUBSISTENCE**
6 **ALLOWANCE.**

7 (a) MODIFICATION.—Section 3680(d)(2) is amended
8 by inserting after the third sentence the following new sen-
9 tence: “For purposes of the entitlement to educational as-
10 sistance of the veteran or person receiving an advance pay-
11 ment under this subsection, the advance payment shall be
12 charged against the final month of the entitlement of the
13 person or veteran and, if necessary, the penultimate such
14 month. In no event may any veteran or person receive
15 more than one advance payment under this subsection
16 during any academic year.”.

17 (b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by
18 subsection (a) shall apply with respect to an advance pay-
19 ment of educational assistance made on or after January
20 1, 2011.

1 **SEC. 17. INCREASE IN AMOUNT OF SUBSISTENCE ALLOW-**
 2 **ANCE PAYABLE TO VETERANS PARTICI-**
 3 **PATING IN VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION**
 4 **PROGRAM.**

5 (a) INCREASE IN SUBSISTENCE ALLOWANCE.—Sec-
 6 tion 3108(b)(1) is amended by striking the table and in-
 7 serting the following new table:

“Column I	Column II	Column III	Column IV	Column V
Type of program	No dependents	One dependent	Two dependents	More than two dependents
.....	The amount in column IV, plus the following for each dependent in excess of two:
Full-time	\$585.87	\$726.72	\$856.39	\$62.42
Three-quarter time.	\$440.21	\$545.83	\$640.27	\$48.00
Half-time	\$294.55	\$364.94	\$428.98	\$32.03”.

8 (b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by
 9 subsection (a) shall apply with respect to a payment made
 10 for the third month beginning after the date of the enact-
 11 ment of this Act and each subsequent month.

12 **SEC. 18. EXPANSION OF AVAILABILITY OF EMPLOYMENT**
 13 **ASSISTANCE ALLOWANCE FOR VETERANS**
 14 **USING EMPLOYMENT SERVICES.**

15 Paragraph (2) of section 3108(a) is amended to read
 16 as follows:

17 “(2) In the case of a veteran with a service-connected
 18 disability who the Secretary determines has reached a
 19 point of employability and who is participating only in a

1 program of employment services provided under section
 2 3104(a)(5) of this title, the Secretary shall pay the veteran
 3 a subsistence allowance as prescribed in this section for
 4 three months while the veteran is satisfactorily pursuing
 5 such program.”.

6 **SEC. 19. PROMOTING JOBS FOR VETERANS TEACHING IN**
 7 **RURAL AREAS.**

8 (a) IN GENERAL.—Part III is amended by adding at
 9 the end the following new chapter:

10 **“CHAPTER 44—VETERAN TEACHERS**

“Sec.

“4401. Assistance allowance for rural veteran teachers.

11 **“§ 4401. Assistance allowance for rural veteran teach-**
 12 **ers**

13 “(a) REDUCING ADMINISTRATIVE BURDEN.—The
 14 Secretary may pay to a rural veteran teacher a monthly
 15 assistance allowance of \$500.

16 “(b) DURATION.—The aggregate period for which the
 17 Secretary may pay a rural veteran teacher a monthly as-
 18 sistance allowance under subsection (a) may not exceed
 19 24 months.

20 “(c) RURAL VETERAN TEACHER DEFINED.—In this
 21 section, the term ‘rural veteran teacher’ means a veteran
 22 who—

23 “(1) is discharged from service in the Armed
 24 Forces under honorable conditions;

1 “(2) has not been employed as a teacher prior
2 to receiving assistance under this section;

3 “(3) is employed to teach full-time at an ac-
4 credited elementary or secondary school that is lo-
5 cated in a rural area (as determined by the Bureau
6 of the Census); and

7 “(4) on the date on which the veteran applies
8 for a monthly assistance allowance under subsection
9 (a), is enrolled in a State-approved course leading to
10 certification as a teacher.

11 “(d) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
12 is authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section
13 \$15,000,000 for fiscal year 2012 and each fiscal year
14 thereafter.”.

15 (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENTS.—The tables of chap-
16 ters at the beginning of title 38, United States Code, and
17 of part III, are each amended by inserting after the item
18 relating to chapter 43 the following new item:

 “44. Assistance allowance for rural veteran teachers 4401”.

19 **SEC. 20. PROMOTING JOBS FOR VETERANS THROUGH THE**
20 **ESTABLISHMENT OF AN INTERNSHIP PRO-**
21 **GRAM.**

22 (a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 7 is amended by adding
23 at the end the following new section:

1 **“§ 712. Internship program**

2 “(a) **INTERNSHIP PROGRAM.**—From amounts avail-
3 able in the ‘General operating expenses’ account of the De-
4 partment, the Secretary may carry out an internship pro-
5 gram through which the Secretary shall award internships
6 to up to 2,000 veterans each year in accordance with this
7 section. The recipient of an internship under this section
8 shall be employed in the Veterans Benefits Administration
9 for the duration of the internship.

10 “(b) **ELIGIBILITY.**—To be eligible to receive an in-
11 ternship under this section a veteran shall have completed
12 a rehabilitation program under chapter 31 of this title.
13 In awarding internships under this section, the Secretary
14 shall give a preference to a veteran who has completed
15 a program of long-term education or training, as deter-
16 mined by the Secretary.

17 “(c) **SALARY; BENEFITS.**—(1) Each recipient of an
18 internship under this section shall be paid at a rate deter-
19 mined by the Secretary, except that such rate shall be at
20 least the maximum annual rate of basic pay payable for
21 grade GS–3 of the General Schedule under section 5332
22 of title 5, United States Code, and shall not exceed the
23 maximum annual rate of basic pay payable for grade GS–
24 5 of such schedule. Payments under this paragraph shall
25 be derived from amounts available in the ‘General oper-
26 ating expenses’ account of the Department.

1 “(2) Each such recipient shall be entitled to leave on
2 the same basis as employees of the Department who are
3 paid at the same annual rate, except that such recipient
4 may not be reimbursed for any unused leave at the end
5 of the internship.

6 “(3) The Secretary shall furnish hospital care, med-
7 ical services, and nursing home care to each recipient of
8 an internship under this section on the same basis as a
9 veteran described in subsection (B) of paragraph (2) of
10 subsection (a) of section 1710 of this title unless the re-
11 cipient is eligible for such care and services under sub-
12 paragraph (A) of such paragraph or under paragraph (1)
13 of such subsection.

14 “(4) The recipient of an internship under this section
15 may receive an allowance under section 3108 of this title
16 if such recipient is entitled to such an allowance.

17 “(d) DURATION.—No internship under this section
18 shall exceed 12 months in duration.

19 “(e) OUTREACH.—The Secretary shall notify each
20 participant in a rehabilitation program under chapter 31
21 of this title of the internship program under this section.”.

22 (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections
23 at the beginning of such chapter is amended by inserting
24 after the item relating to section 711 the following new
25 item:

“712. Internship program.”.

1 **SEC. 21. VETERANS ENTREPRENEURIAL DEVELOPMENT**
2 **SUMMIT.**

3 (a) IN GENERAL.—Subchapter II of chapter 81 is
4 amended by adding at the end the following new section:

5 **“§ 8129. Veterans entrepreneurial development sum-**
6 **mit**

7 “(a) VETERANS ENTREPRENEURIAL DEVELOPMENT
8 SUMMIT.—The Secretary may hold an event, once every
9 year, to provide networking opportunities, outreach, edu-
10 cation, training, and support to small business concerns
11 owned and controlled by veterans, veterans service organi-
12 zations, and other entities as determined appropriate by
13 the Secretary.

14 “(b) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
15 is authorized to be appropriated to carry out this sub-
16 section \$1,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2011 and
17 2021.”.

18 (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections
19 at the beginning of such chapter is amended by adding
20 at the end of the items relating to subchapter II the fol-
21 lowing:

“8129. Veterans entrepreneurial development summit.”.

1 **SEC. 22. INCREASE IN THE MAXIMUM AMOUNT OF SPE-**
2 **CIALLY ADAPTED HOUSING ASSISTANCE AU-**
3 **THORIZED TO BE PROVIDED BY THE SEC-**
4 **RETARY OF VETERANS AFFAIRS.**

5 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 2102 is amended—

6 (1) in subsection (b)(2), by striking “\$12,000”
7 and inserting “\$13,756”; and

8 (2) in subsection (d)—

9 (A) in paragraph (1), by striking
10 “\$60,000” and inserting “\$65,780”; and

11 (B) in paragraph (2), by striking
12 “\$12,000” and inserting “\$13,756”.

13 (b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by
14 subsection (a) shall apply with respect to assistance fur-
15 nished after the date of the enactment of this Act.

16 **SEC. 23. DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS HOUSING**
17 **LOANS FOR CONSTRUCTION OF ENERGY EF-**
18 **FICIENT DWELLINGS.**

19 (a) LOANS AUTHORIZED.—Section 3710(d) is
20 amended—

21 (1) in paragraph (1)—

22 (A) by striking “The Secretary” and in-
23 serting “(A) The Secretary”;

24 (B) by striking “for the acquisition of”
25 and all that follows through the end and insert-
26 ing “for any of the following purposes:”;

1 (C) by adding at the end the following new
2 clauses:

3 “(i) The acquisition of an existing dwelling and
4 the cost of making energy efficiency improvements
5 to the dwelling.

6 “(ii) The construction of a new dwelling and
7 the cost of making energy efficiency improvements
8 to the dwelling.

9 “(iii) Energy efficiency improvements to a
10 dwelling owned and occupied by a veteran.”; and

11 (D) by adding at the end the following new
12 subparagraphs:

13 “(B) Except as otherwise provided in this subsection,
14 a loan may be guaranteed under this subsection only if
15 it meets the requirements of this chapter.

16 “(C) The Secretary shall determine appropriate en-
17 ergy efficiency standards for purposes of this subsection
18 and shall require that dwellings purchased, constructed,
19 or improved using a loan guaranteed under this subsection
20 meet such standards.”; and

21 (2) in paragraph (2), by striking subparagraphs
22 (A) and (B) and inserting the following new sub-
23 paragraphs (A) and (B):

24 “(A) five percent of the total established value
25 of the property, dwelling, and improvements; or

1 “(B) \$6,000, or a higher amount specifically
2 provided by the Secretary.”.

3 (b) GUIDANCE.—Not later than 180 days after the
4 date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall issue
5 guidance on appraising the value of energy efficiency im-
6 provements for purposes of section 3710(d) of title 38,
7 United States Code, as amended by this Act.

8 (c) REGULATIONS.—

9 (1) INTERIM POLICY GUIDANCE.—Not later
10 than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this
11 Act, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall prescribe
12 interim policy guidance on energy efficiency audits
13 and the conditions under which the performance of
14 such audits may be included in the amount guaran-
15 teed by the Secretary under section 3710(d) of title
16 38, United States Code, as amended by subsection
17 (a).

18 (2) REGULATIONS.—Not later than 1 year after
19 the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary
20 shall prescribe regulations to carry out the amend-
21 ments made by subsection (a).

22 (3) ENERGY EFFICIENCY AUDIT DEFINED.—
23 For purposes of this subsection, the term “energy
24 efficiency audit” means a measurement of the ef-
25 fects of an improvement made to a dwelling for the

1 purpose of reducing energy consumption or increas-
2 ing energy efficiency that is carried out by a cer-
3 tified professional auditor, as determined by the Sec-
4 retary.

5 (d) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by
6 subsections (a) and (b) shall apply with respect to a loan
7 secured on or after January 1, 2011.

8 **SEC. 24. PILOT PROGRAM ON SPECIALLY ADAPTED HOUS-**
9 **ING ASSISTANCE FOR VETERANS RESIDING**
10 **TEMPORARILY IN HOUSING OWNED BY A**
11 **FAMILY MEMBER.**

12 (a) TREATMENT OF CERTAIN LIMITATIONS.—Not-
13 withstanding subsection (d) of section 2102 of title 38,
14 United States Code, and subject to subsection (b), a grant
15 under section 2102A of such title shall not count toward
16 the dollar amount limitations specified in that subsection.

17 (b) TERMINATION.—Subsection (a) shall apply only
18 to the first 25 grants made during fiscal year 2011.

19 **SEC. 25. COMPLIANCE WITH STATUTORY PAY-AS-YOU-GO**
20 **ACT OF 2010.**

21 The budgetary effects of this Act, for the purpose of
22 complying with the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010,
23 shall be determined by reference to the latest statement
24 titled “Budgetary Effects of PAYGO Legislation” for this
25 Act, submitted for printing in the Congressional Record

1 by the Chairman of the House Budget Committee, pro-
2 vided that such statement has been submitted prior to the
3 vote on passage.

Passed the House of Representatives September 28,
2010.

Attest:

Clerk.

111TH CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

H. R. 5360

AN ACT

To amend title 38, United States Code, to make certain improvements in the laws administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes.