

109TH CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

H. R. 6342

To amend title 38, United States Code, to extend certain expiring provisions of law administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, to expand eligibility for the Survivors' and Dependents' Educational Assistance program, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

DECEMBER 5, 2006

Mr. BUYER (for himself and Mr. EVANS) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs

A BILL

To amend title 38, United States Code, to extend certain expiring provisions of law administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, to expand eligibility for the Survivors' and Dependents' Educational Assistance program, 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; TABLE OF CONTENTS.**

4 (a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the
5 “Veterans Programs Extension Act of 2006”.

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

- Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.
- Sec. 2. Extension of certain expiring provisions of law administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs.
- Sec. 3. Expansion of eligibility for Survivors' and Dependents' Educational Assistance program.
- Sec. 4. Deadline and permanent requirement for report on educational assistance program.
- Sec. 5. Reauthorization of biennial report of Advisory Committee on Women Veterans.
- Sec. 6. Parkinson's Disease research, education, and clinical centers and multiple sclerosis centers of excellence.
- Sec. 7. Authorization of major medical facility leases.
- Sec. 8. Technical and clerical amendments.
- Sec. 9. Codification of cost-of-living adjustment provided in Public Law 109-361.

1 **SEC. 2. EXTENSION OF CERTAIN EXPIRING PROVISIONS OF**
 2 **LAW ADMINISTERED BY THE SECRETARY OF**
 3 **VETERANS AFFAIRS.**

4 (a) **AUTHORITY FOR HEALTH CARE FOR PARTICIPA-**
 5 **TION IN DOD CHEMICAL AND BIOLOGICAL WARFARE**
 6 **TESTING.**—Section 1710(e)(3)(D) of title 38, United
 7 States Code, is amended by striking “December 31, 2005”
 8 and inserting “December 31, 2007”.

9 (b) **GRANT AND PER DIEM GRANT ASSISTANCE FOR**
 10 **HOMELESS VETERANS.**—Section 2011(a)(2) of such title
 11 is amended by striking “September 30, 2005” and insert-
 12 ing “September 30, 2007”.

13 (c) **TREATMENT AND REHABILITATION FOR SERI-**
 14 **OUSLY MENTALLY ILL AND HOMELESS VETERANS.**—Sec-
 15 tion 2031(b) of such title is amended by striking “Decem-
 16 ber 31, 2006” and inserting “December 31, 2007”.

17 (d) **ADDITIONAL SERVICES FOR HOMELESS AND SE-**
 18 **RIOUSLY MENTALLY ILL VETERANS.**—Section 2033(d) of

1 such title is amended by striking “December 31, 2006”
2 and inserting “December 31, 2007”.

3 (e) ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON HOMELESS VET-
4 ERANS.—Section 2066(d) of such title is amended by
5 striking “December 31, 2006” and inserting “December
6 31, 2007”.

7 (f) GOVERNMENT MARKERS IN PRIVATE CEME-
8 TERIES.—Section 2306(d)(3) of such title is amended by
9 striking “December 31, 2006” and inserting “December
10 31, 2007”.

11 (g) ADDITIONAL EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE ALLOW-
12 ANCE FOR WORK-STUDY.—Section 3485(a)(4) of such
13 title is amended in subparagraphs (A), (C), and (F) by
14 striking “December 27, 2006” and inserting “June 30,
15 2007”.

16 **SEC. 3. EXPANSION OF ELIGIBILITY FOR SURVIVORS’ AND**
17 **DEPENDENTS’ EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE**
18 **PROGRAM.**

19 (a) EXPANSION OF ELIGIBILITY.—Section
20 3501(a)(1) of title 38, United States Code, is amended—

21 (1) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A),
22 by striking “means—” and inserting “means any of
23 the following:”;

24 (2) in each of subparagraphs (A) through (D),
25 by capitalizing the first letter of the first word;

1 (3) in subparagraph (A)—

2 (A) by inserting after “a person who” the
3 following: “, as a result of qualifying service”;

4 (B) by striking the comma at the end of
5 clause (i) and inserting “; or”;

6 (C) by striking “, or” at the end of clause
7 (ii) and inserting a period; and

8 (D) by striking clause (iii);

9 (4) in subparagraph (B) by striking the comma
10 at the end and inserting the following: “sustained
11 during a period of qualifying service.”;

12 (5) in subparagraph (C)—

13 (A) by inserting “or child” after “the
14 spouse”; and

15 (B) by striking “, or” at the end and in-
16 serting a period;

17 (6) in subparagraph (D)—

18 (A) in clause (i), by inserting before the
19 comma the following: “sustained during a pe-
20 riod of qualifying service”; and

21 (B) by striking the comma at the end and
22 inserting a period;

23 (7) by inserting after subparagraph (D) the fol-
24 lowing new subparagraph:

1 “(E) The spouse or child of a person
2 who—

3 “(i) at the time of the Secretary’s de-
4 termination under clause (ii), is a member
5 of the Armed Forces who is hospitalized or
6 receiving outpatient medical care, services,
7 or treatment;

8 “(ii) the Secretary determines has a
9 total disability permanent in nature in-
10 curred or aggravated in the line of duty in
11 the active military, naval, or air service;
12 and

13 “(iii) is likely to be discharged or re-
14 leased from such service for such dis-
15 ability.”; and

16 (8) by striking “arising out of” and all that fol-
17 lows through the end.

18 (b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS TO CHAPTER 35.—

19 Chapter 35 of such title is further amended as follows:

20 (1) Section 3501(a) is amended by adding at
21 the end the following new paragraph:

22 “(12) The term ‘qualifying service’ means serv-
23 ice in the active military, naval, or air service after
24 the beginning of the Spanish-American War that did
25 not terminate under dishonorable conditions.”.

- 1 (2) Section 3511 is amended—
- 2 (A) in subsection (a)(1)—
- 3 (i) by striking “Each eligible person”
- 4 and inserting the following: “Each eligible
- 5 person, whether made eligible by one or
- 6 more of the provisions of section
- 7 3501(a)(1) of this title,”;
- 8 (ii) by striking “a period” and insert-
- 9 ing “an aggregate period”; and
- 10 (iii) by striking the second sentence;
- 11 (B) in subsection (b)—
- 12 (i) in paragraph (2)—
- 13 (I) by striking “the provisions of
- 14 section 3501(a)(1)(A)(iii) or” and in-
- 15 serting “section”; and
- 16 (II) by striking “or” at the end;
- 17 (ii) in paragraph (3)—
- 18 (I) by striking “section
- 19 3501(a)(1)(D)” and inserting “sub-
- 20 paragraph (D) or (E) of section
- 21 3501(a)(1)”;
- 22 (II) by inserting “or” after the
- 23 comma at the end; and
- 24 (iii) by inserting after paragraph (3)
- 25 the following new paragraph:

1 “(4) the parent or spouse from whom such eli-
2 gibility is derived based upon subparagraph (E) of
3 section 3501(a)(1) of this title no longer meets a re-
4 quirement under clause (i), (ii), or (iii) of that sub-
5 paragraph,”; and

6 (C) by striking subsection (c).

7 (3) Section 3512 is amended—

8 (A) in subsection (a)—

9 (i) by striking “an eligible person
10 (within the meaning of section
11 3501(a)(1)(A) of this title)” and inserting
12 “an eligible person whose eligibility is
13 based on the death or disability of a parent
14 or on a parent being listed in one of the
15 categories referred to in section
16 3501(a)(1)(C) of this title”; and

17 (ii) in paragraph (6), by striking “the
18 provisions of section 3501(a)(1)(A)(iii)”
19 and inserting “a parent being listed in one
20 of the categories referred to in section
21 3501(a)(1)(C)”;

22 (B) in subsection (b)—

23 (i) in paragraph (1)(A)—

24 (I) by inserting after “section
25 3501(a)(1) of this title” the following:

1 “or a person made eligible by the dis-
2 ability of a spouse under section
3 3501(a)(1)(E) of this title”; and

4 (II) by striking “or
5 3501(a)(1)(D)(ii) of this title” and in-
6 sserting “3501(a)(1)(D)(ii), or
7 3501(a)(1)(E) of this title”;

8 (ii) in paragraph (1)(B), by adding at
9 the end the following new clause:

10 “(iii) The date on which the Secretary notifies
11 the member of the Armed Forces from whom eligi-
12 bility is derived that the member has a total dis-
13 ability permanent in nature incurred or aggravated
14 in the line of duty in the active military, naval, or
15 air service.”; and

16 (iii) in paragraph (2)—

17 (I) by striking “or (D) of this
18 title” and inserting “(D), or (E) of
19 this title”; and

20 (II) by inserting “whose eligi-
21 bility is based on the death or dis-
22 ability of a spouse or on a spouse
23 being listed in one of the categories
24 referred to in section 3501(a)(1)(C) of
25 this title” after “of this title”;

1 (C) in subsection (d), by striking “vet-
2 eran” and inserting “person”; and

3 (D) in subsection (e)—

4 (i) by inserting “based on a spouse
5 being listed in one of the categories re-
6 ferred to in section 3501(a)(1)(C) of this
7 title” after “of this title”;

8 (ii) by inserting “so” after “the
9 spouse was”; and

10 (iii) by striking “by the Secretary”
11 and all that follows through “occurs”.

12 (4) Section 3540 is amended by striking “(as
13 defined in subparagraphs (A), (B), and (D) of sec-
14 tion 3501(a)(1) of this title)” and inserting “(other
15 than a person made eligible under subparagraph (C)
16 of such section by reason of a spouse being listed in
17 one of the categories referred to in that subpara-
18 graph)”.

19 (5) Section 3563 is amended by striking “each
20 eligible person defined in section 3501(a)(1)(A) of
21 this title” and inserting “each eligible person whose
22 eligibility is based on the death or disability of a
23 parent or on a parent being listed in one of the cat-
24 egories referred to in section 3501(a)(1)(C) of this
25 title”.

1 (c) OTHER CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—Such title
2 is further amended as follows:

3 (1) Sections 3686(a)(1) is amended by striking
4 “or (D)” and inserting “(D), or (E)”.

5 (2) Section 5113(b)(3) is amended—

6 (A) in subparagraph (B) by striking “sec-
7 tion 3501(a)(1)” and all that follows through
8 the end and inserting the following: “subpara-
9 graphs (A), (B), (D), and (E) of section
10 3501(a)(1) of this title.”; and

11 (B) in subparagraph (C)—

12 (i) by striking “such veteran’s death”
13 and inserting “the death of the person
14 from whom such eligibility is derived”; and

15 (ii) by striking “such veteran’s serv-
16 ice-connected total disability permanent in
17 nature” and inserting “the service-con-
18 nected total disability permanent in nature
19 (or, in the case of a person made eligible
20 under section 3501(a)(1)(E), the total dis-
21 ability permanent in nature incurred or ag-
22 gravated in the line of duty in the active
23 military, naval, or air service) of the per-
24 son from whom such eligibility is derived”.

1 (d) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by
2 this section shall apply with respect to a payment of edu-
3 cational assistance for a course of education pursued after
4 the date of the enactment of this Act.

5 **SEC. 4. DEADLINE AND PERMANENT REQUIREMENT FOR**
6 **REPORT ON EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE PRO-**
7 **GRAM.**

8 (a) DEADLINE FOR REPORT.—Not later than six
9 months after the date of the enactment of this Act, the
10 Secretary of Defense and the Secretary of Veterans Af-
11 fairs shall each submit to Congress a report containing
12 the information specified in subsections (b) and (c) of sec-
13 tion 3036 of title 38, United States Code.

14 (b) REPEAL OF TERMINATION.—Section 3036 of title
15 38, United States Code, is amended by striking subsection
16 (d).

17 **SEC. 5. REAUTHORIZATION OF BIENNIAL REPORT OF ADVI-**
18 **SORY COMMITTEE ON WOMEN VETERANS.**

19 Section 542(c)(1) of title 38, United States Code, is
20 amended by striking “2004” and inserting “2008”.

21 **SEC. 6. PARKINSON’S DISEASE RESEARCH, EDUCATION,**
22 **AND CLINICAL CENTERS AND MULTIPLE**
23 **SCLEROSIS CENTERS OF EXCELLENCE.**

24 (a) REQUIREMENT FOR ESTABLISHMENT OF CEN-
25 TERS.—

1 (1) IN GENERAL.—Subchapter II of chapter 73
2 of title 38, United States Code, is amended by add-
3 ing at the end the following new sections:

4 **“§ 7329. Parkinson’s Disease research, education, and**
5 **clinical centers**

6 “(a) ESTABLISHMENT OF CENTERS.—(1) The Sec-
7 retary, upon the recommendation of the Under Secretary
8 for Health, shall designate not less than six Department
9 health-care facilities as the locations for centers of Parkin-
10 son’s Disease research, education, and clinical activities.

11 “(2) Subject to the appropriation of sufficient funds
12 for such purpose, the Secretary shall establish and operate
13 centers of Parkinson’s Disease research, education, and
14 clinical activities at the locations designated pursuant to
15 paragraph (1) for such centers.

16 “(b) CRITERIA FOR DESIGNATION OF FACILITIES.—
17 (1) In designating Department health-care facilities for
18 centers under subsection (a), the Secretary, upon the rec-
19 ommendation of the Under Secretary for Health, shall as-
20 sure appropriate geographic distribution of such facilities.

21 “(2) Except as provided in paragraph (3), the Sec-
22 retary shall designate as the location for a center of Par-
23 kinson’s Disease research, education, and clinical activities
24 pursuant to subsection (a)(1) each Department health-
25 care facility that as of January 1, 2005, was operating

1 a Parkinson’s Disease research, education, and clinical
2 center.

3 “(3) The Secretary may not under subsection (a) des-
4 ignate a facility described in paragraph (2) if (on the rec-
5 ommendation of the Under Secretary for Health) the Sec-
6 retary determines that such facility—

7 “(A) does not meet the requirements of sub-
8 section (c); or

9 “(B) has not demonstrated—

10 “(i) effectiveness in carrying out the estab-
11 lished purposes of such center; or

12 “(ii) the potential to carry out such pur-
13 poses effectively in the reasonably foreseeable
14 future.

15 “(c) REQUIREMENTS FOR DESIGNATION.—(1) The
16 Secretary may not designate a Department health-care fa-
17 cility as a location for a center under subsection (a) unless
18 the peer review panel established under subsection (d) has
19 determined under that subsection that the proposal sub-
20 mitted by such facility as a location for a new center under
21 subsection (a) is among those proposals that meet the
22 highest competitive standards of scientific and clinical
23 merit.

24 “(2) The Secretary may not designate a Department
25 health-care facility as a location for a center under sub-

1 section (a) unless the Secretary (upon the recommenda-
2 tion of the Under Secretary for Health) determines that
3 the facility has (or may reasonably be anticipated to de-
4 velop) each of the following:

5 “(A) An arrangement with an accredited med-
6 ical school that provides education and training in
7 neurology and with which the Department health-
8 care facility is affiliated under which residents re-
9 ceive education and training in innovative diagnosis
10 and treatment of chronic neurodegenerative diseases
11 and movement disorders, including Parkinson’s Dis-
12 ease.

13 “(B) The ability to attract the participation of
14 scientists who are capable of ingenuity and creativity
15 in health-care research efforts.

16 “(C) An advisory committee composed of vet-
17 erans and appropriate health-care and research rep-
18 resentatives of the Department health-care facility
19 and of the affiliated school or schools to advise the
20 directors of such facility and such center on policy
21 matters pertaining to the activities of the center dur-
22 ing the period of the operation of such center.

23 “(D) The capability to conduct effectively eval-
24 uations of the activities of such center.

1 “(E) The capability to coordinate (as part of an
2 integrated national system) education, clinical, and
3 research activities within all facilities with such cen-
4 ters.

5 “(F) The capability to jointly develop a Consor-
6 tium of providers with interest in treating
7 neurodegenerative diseases, including Parkinson’s
8 Disease and other movement disorders, at facilities
9 without such centers in order to ensure better access
10 to state-of-the-art diagnosis, care, and education for
11 neurodegenerative disorders throughout the health
12 care system of the Department.

13 “(G) The capability to develop a national repos-
14 itory in the health care system of the Department
15 for the collection of data on health services delivered
16 to veterans seeking care for neurodegenerative dis-
17 eases, including Parkinson’s Disease, and other
18 movement disorders.

19 “(d) PEER REVIEW PANEL.—(1) The Under Sec-
20 retary for Health shall establish a panel to assess the sci-
21 entific and clinical merit of proposals that are submitted
22 to the Secretary for the establishment of centers under
23 this section.

1 “(2)(A) The membership of the panel shall consist
2 of experts in neurodegenerative diseases, including Parkin-
3 son’s Disease, and other movement disorders.

4 “(B) Members of the panel shall serve for a period
5 of no longer than two years, except as specified in sub-
6 paragraph (C).

7 “(C) Of the members first appointed to the panel,
8 one half shall be appointed for a period of three years and
9 one half shall be appointed for a period of two years, as
10 designated by the Under Secretary at the time of appoint-
11 ment.

12 “(3) The panel shall review each proposal submitted
13 to the panel by the Under Secretary and shall submit its
14 views on the relative scientific and clinical merit of each
15 such proposal to the Under Secretary.

16 “(4) The panel shall not be subject to the Federal
17 Advisory Committee Act.

18 “(e) PRIORITY OF FUNDING.—Before providing
19 funds for the operation of a center designated under sub-
20 section (a) at a Department health-care facility other than
21 at a facility designated pursuant to subsection (b)(2), the
22 Secretary shall ensure that each Parkinson’s Disease cen-
23 ter at a facility designated pursuant to subsection (b)(2)
24 is receiving adequate funding to enable that center to

1 function effectively in the areas of Parkinson’s Disease re-
2 search, education, and clinical activities.

3 “(f) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
4 are authorized to be appropriated such sums as may be
5 necessary for the support of the research and education
6 activities of the centers established pursuant to subsection
7 (a). The Under Secretary for Health shall allocate to such
8 centers from other funds appropriated generally for the
9 Department medical services account and medical and
10 prosthetics research account, as appropriate, such
11 amounts as the Under Secretary for Health determines
12 appropriate.

13 “(g) AWARD COMPETITIONS.—Activities of clinical
14 and scientific investigation at each center established
15 under subsection (a) shall be eligible to compete for the
16 award of funding from funds appropriated for the Depart-
17 ment medical and prosthetics research account. Such ac-
18 tivities shall receive priority in the award of funding from
19 such account insofar as funds are awarded to projects for
20 research in Parkinson’s Disease and other movement dis-
21 orders.

22 **“§ 7330. Multiple sclerosis centers of excellence**

23 “(a) ESTABLISHMENT OF CENTERS.—(1) The Sec-
24 retary, upon the recommendation of the Under Secretary
25 for Health, shall designate not less than two Department

1 health-care facilities as the locations for multiple sclerosis
2 centers of excellence.

3 “(2) Subject to the appropriation of sufficient funds
4 for such purpose, the Secretary shall establish and operate
5 multiple sclerosis centers of excellence at the locations des-
6 ignated pursuant to paragraph (1) for such centers.

7 “(b) CRITERIA FOR DESIGNATION OF FACILITIES.—
8 (1) In designating Department health-care facilities for
9 centers under subsection (a), the Secretary, upon the rec-
10 ommendation of the Under Secretary for Health, shall as-
11 sure appropriate geographic distribution of such facilities.

12 “(2) Except as provided in paragraph (3), the Sec-
13 retary shall designate as the location for a multiple sle-
14 rosis center of excellence pursuant to subsection (a)(1)
15 each Department health-care facility that as of January
16 1, 2005, was operating a multiple sclerosis center of excel-
17 lence.

18 “(3) The Secretary may not under subsection (a) des-
19 ignate a facility described in paragraph (2) if (on the rec-
20 ommendation of the Under Secretary for Health) the Sec-
21 retary determines that such facility—

22 “(A) does not meet the requirements of sub-
23 section (c); or

24 “(B) has not demonstrated—

1 “(i) effectiveness in carrying out the estab-
2 lished purposes of such center; or

3 “(ii) the potential to carry out such pur-
4 poses effectively in the reasonably foreseeable
5 future.

6 “(c) REQUIREMENTS FOR DESIGNATION.—(1) The
7 Secretary may not designate a Department health-care fa-
8 cility as a location for a center under subsection (a) unless
9 the peer review panel established under subsection (d) has
10 determined under that subsection that the proposal sub-
11 mitted by such facility as a location for a new center under
12 subsection (a) is among those proposals that meet the
13 highest competitive standards of scientific and clinical
14 merit.

15 “(2) The Secretary may not designate a Department
16 health-care facility as a location for a center under sub-
17 section (a) unless the Secretary (upon the recommenda-
18 tion of the Under Secretary for Health) determines that
19 the facility has (or may reasonably be anticipated to de-
20 velop) each of the following:

21 “(A) An arrangement with an accredited med-
22 ical school that provides education and training in
23 neurology and with which the Department health-
24 care facility is affiliated under which residents re-
25 ceive education and training in innovative diagnosis

1 and treatment of chronic neurodegenerative diseases,
2 including multiple sclerosis.

3 “(B) The ability to attract the participation of
4 scientists who are capable of ingenuity and creativity
5 in health-care research efforts.

6 “(C) An advisory committee composed of vet-
7 erans and appropriate health-care and research rep-
8 resentatives of the Department health-care facility
9 and of the affiliated school or schools to advise the
10 directors of such facility and such center on policy
11 matters pertaining to the activities of the center dur-
12 ing the period of the operation of such center.

13 “(D) The capability to conduct effectively eval-
14 uations of the activities of such center.

15 “(E) The capability to coordinate (as part of an
16 integrated national system) education, clinical, and
17 research activities within all facilities with such cen-
18 ters.

19 “(F) The capability to jointly develop a consor-
20 tium of providers with interest in treating multiple
21 sclerosis at facilities without such centers in order to
22 ensure better access to state-of-the-art diagnosis,
23 care, and education for autoimmune disease affect-
24 ing the central nervous system throughout the health
25 care system of the Department.

1 “(G) The capability to develop a national repos-
2 itory in the health care system of the Department
3 for the collection of data on health services delivered
4 to veterans seeking care for autoimmune disease af-
5 fecting the central nervous system.

6 “(d) PEER REVIEW PANEL.—(1) The Under Sec-
7 retary for Health shall establish a panel to assess the sci-
8 entific and clinical merit of proposals that are submitted
9 to the Secretary for the establishment of centers under
10 this section.

11 “(2)(A) The membership of the panel shall consist
12 of experts in autoimmune disease affecting the central
13 nervous system.

14 “(B) Members of the panel shall serve for a period
15 of no longer than two years, except as specified in sub-
16 paragraph (C).

17 “(C) Of the members first appointed to the panel,
18 one half shall be appointed for a period of three years and
19 one half shall be appointed for a period of two years, as
20 designated by the Under Secretary at the time of appoint-
21 ment.

22 “(3) The panel shall review each proposal submitted
23 to the panel by the Under Secretary and shall submit its
24 views on the relative scientific and clinical merit of each
25 such proposal to the Under Secretary.

1 “(4) The panel shall not be subject to the Federal
2 Advisory Committee Act.

3 “(e) PRIORITY OF FUNDING.—Before providing
4 funds for the operation of a center designated under sub-
5 section (a) at a Department health-care facility other than
6 at a facility designated pursuant to subsection (b)(2), the
7 Secretary shall ensure that each multiple sclerosis center
8 at a facility designated pursuant to subsection (b)(2) is
9 receiving adequate funding to enable that center to func-
10 tion effectively in the areas of multiple sclerosis research,
11 education, and clinical activities.

12 “(f) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
13 are authorized to be appropriated such sums as may be
14 necessary for the support of the research and education
15 activities of the centers established pursuant to subsection
16 (a). The Under Secretary for Health shall allocate to such
17 centers from other funds appropriated generally for the
18 Department medical services account and medical and
19 prosthetics research account, as appropriate, such
20 amounts as the Under Secretary for Health determines
21 appropriate.

22 “(g) AWARD COMPETITIONS.—Activities of clinical
23 and scientific investigation at each center established
24 under subsection (a) shall be eligible to compete for the
25 award of funding from funds appropriated for the Depart-

1 ment medical and prosthetics research account. Such ac-
 2 tivities shall receive priority in the award of funding from
 3 such account insofar as funds are awarded to projects for
 4 research in multiple sclerosis and other neurodegenerative
 5 disorders.”.

6 (2) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sec-
 7 tions at the beginning of such chapter is amended
 8 by inserting after the item relating to section 7328
 9 the following new items:

“7329. Parkinson’s Disease research, education, and clinical centers.
 “7330. Multiple sclerosis centers of excellence.”.

10 (b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—Section 7329 and 7330 of
 11 title 38, United States Code, as added by subsection (a),
 12 shall take effect at the end of the 30-day period beginning
 13 on the date of the enactment of this Act.

14 **SEC. 7. AUTHORIZATION OF MAJOR MEDICAL FACILITY**
 15 **LEASES.**

16 (a) FISCAL YEAR 2006 LEASES.—The Secretary of
 17 Veterans Affairs may carry out the following major med-
 18 ical facility leases in fiscal year 2006 at the locations spec-
 19 ified, in an amount for each lease not to exceed the
 20 amount specified for that location:

21 (1) For an outpatient clinic, Baltimore, Mary-
 22 land, \$10,908,000.

23 (2) For an outpatient clinic, Evansville, Indi-
 24 ana, \$8,989,000.

1 (3) For an outpatient clinic, Smith County,
2 Texas, \$5,093,000.

3 (b) FISCAL YEAR 2007 LEASES.—The Secretary of
4 Veterans Affairs may carry out the following major med-
5 ical facility leases in fiscal year 2007 at the locations spec-
6 ified, in an amount for each lease not to exceed the
7 amount specified for that location:

8 (1) For an outpatient and specialty care clinic,
9 Austin, Texas, \$6,163,000.

10 (2) For an outpatient clinic, Lowell, Massachu-
11 setts, \$2,520,000.

12 (3) For an outpatient clinic, Grand Rapids,
13 Michigan, \$4,409,000.

14 (4) For up to four outpatient clinics, Las
15 Vegas, Nevada, \$8,518,000.

16 (5) For an outpatient clinic, Parma, Ohio,
17 \$5,032,000.

18 (c) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS FOR
19 MAJOR MEDICAL FACILITY LEASES.—

20 (1) FISCAL YEAR 2006 LEASES.—There is au-
21 thorized to be appropriated for the Secretary of Vet-
22 erans Affairs for fiscal year 2006 for the Medical
23 Care account, \$24,990,000 for the leases authorized
24 in subsection (a).

1 (2) FISCAL YEAR 2007 LEASES.—There is au-
2 thorized to be appropriated for the Secretary of Vet-
3 erans Affairs for fiscal year 2007 for the Medical
4 Care account, \$26,642,000 for the leases authorized
5 in subsection (b).

6 **SEC. 8. TECHNICAL AND CLERICAL AMENDMENTS.**

7 (a) TITLE 38, UNITED STATES CODE.—Title 38,
8 United States Code, is amended as follows:

9 (1) CITATION CORRECTION.—Section
10 1718(e)(2) is amended by inserting “of 1938” after
11 “Act”.

12 (2) CITATION CORRECTION.—Section
13 1785(b)(1) is amended by striking “Robert B.” and
14 inserting “Robert T.”.

15 (3) PUNCTUATION CORRECTION.—Section
16 2002(1) is amended by inserting a closing paren-
17 thesis before the period at the end.

18 (4) PUNCTUATION CORRECTION.—Section
19 2011(a)(1)(C) is amended by inserting a period at
20 the end.

21 (5) CROSS REFERENCE CORRECTION.—Section
22 2041(a)(3)(A)(i) is amended by striking “under this
23 chapter” and inserting “established under section
24 3722 of this title”.

1 (6) CITATION CORRECTION.—Section
2 8111(b)(1) is amended by striking “into the stra-
3 tegic” and all that follows through “and Results Act
4 of 1993” and inserting “into the strategic plan of
5 each Department under section 306 of title 5 and
6 the performance plan of each Department under sec-
7 tion 1115 of title 31”.

8 (7) REPEAL OF OBSOLETE TEXT.—Section
9 8111 is further amended—

10 (A) in subsection (d)(2), by striking “effec-
11 tive October 1, 2003,”; and

12 (B) in subsection (e)(2)—

13 (i) in the second sentence, by striking
14 “shall be implemented no later than Octo-
15 ber 1, 2003, and”; and

16 (ii) in the third sentence, by striking
17 “, following implementation of the sched-
18 ule,”.

19 (8) CITATION CORRECTION.—Section
20 8111A(a)(2)(B)(i) is amended by striking “Robert
21 B.” and inserting “Robert T.”.

22 (b) PUBLIC LAW 107–296.—Effective as of Novem-
23 ber 25, 2002, section 1704(d) of the Homeland Security
24 Act of 2002 (Public Law 107–296; 116 Stat. 2315) is
25 amended—

1 (9) in subsection (i), by striking “\$1,436” and
2 inserting “\$1,483”;

3 (10) in subsection (j), by striking “\$2,393” and
4 inserting “\$2,471”;

5 (11) in subsection (k)—

6 (A) by striking “\$87” both places it ap-
7 pears and inserting “\$89”; and

8 (B) by striking “\$2,977” and “\$4,176”
9 and inserting “\$3,075” and “\$4,313”, respec-
10 tively;

11 (12) in subsection (l), by striking “\$2,977” and
12 inserting “\$3,075”;

13 (13) in subsection (m), by striking “\$3,284”
14 and inserting “\$3,392”;

15 (14) in subsection (n), by striking “\$3,737”
16 and inserting “\$3,860”;

17 (15) in subsections (o) and (p), by striking
18 “\$4,176” each place it appears and inserting
19 “\$4,313”;

20 (16) in subsection (r)—

21 (A) in paragraph (1), by striking “\$1,792”
22 and inserting “\$1,851”; and

23 (B) in paragraph (2), by striking “2,669”
24 and inserting “\$2,757”; and

1 (17) in subsection (s), by striking “\$2,678” and
2 inserting “\$2,766”.

3 (b) ADDITIONAL COMPENSATION FOR DEPEND-
4 ENTS.—Section 1115(1) of such title is amended—

5 (1) in subparagraph (A), by striking “\$135”
6 and inserting “\$139”;

7 (2) in subparagraph (B), by striking “\$233”
8 and “\$68” and inserting “\$240” and “\$70”, respec-
9 tively;

10 (3) in subparagraph (C), by striking “\$91” and
11 “\$68” and inserting “\$94” and “\$70”, respectively;

12 (4) in subparagraph (D), by striking “\$109”
13 and inserting “\$112”;

14 (5) in subparagraph (E), by striking “\$257”
15 and inserting “\$265”; and

16 (6) in subparagraph (F), by striking “\$215”
17 and inserting “\$222”.

18 (c) CLOTHING ALLOWANCE FOR CERTAIN DISABLED
19 VETERANS.—Section 1162 of such title is amended by
20 striking “\$641” and inserting “\$662”.

21 (d) DEPENDENCY AND INDEMNITY COMPENSATION
22 FOR SURVIVING SPOUSES.—

23 (1) NEW LAW DIC.—Subsection (a) of section
24 1311 of such title is amended—

1 (A) in paragraph (1), by striking “\$1,033”
 2 and inserting “\$1,067”; and
 3 (B) in paragraph (2), by striking “\$221”
 4 and inserting “\$228”.
 5 (2) OLD LAW DIC.—The table in paragraph (3)
 6 of such subsection is amended to read as follows:

“Pay grade	Monthly rate	Pay grade	Monthly rate
E-1	\$1,067	W-4	\$1,276
E-2	\$1,067	O-1	\$1,128
E-3	\$1,067	O-2	\$1,165
E-4	\$1,067	O-3	\$1,246
E-5	\$1,067	O-4	\$1,319
E-6	\$1,067	O-5	\$1,452
E-7	\$1,104	O-6	\$1,637
E-8	\$1,165	O-7	\$1,768
E-9	\$1,215 ¹	O-8	\$1,941
W-1	\$1,128	O-9	\$2,076
W-2	\$1,172	O-10	\$2,276 ²
W-3	\$1,207

¹ If the veteran served as Sergeant Major of the Army, Senior Enlisted Advisor of the Navy, Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force, Sergeant Major of the Marine Corps, or Master Chief Petty Officer of the Coast Guard, at the applicable time designated by section 1302 of this title, the surviving spouse’s rate shall be \$1,312.

² If the veteran served as Chairman or Vice Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Chief of Staff of the Army, Chief of Naval Operations, Chief of Staff of the Air Force, Commandant of the Marine Corps, or Commandant of the Coast Guard, at the applicable time designated by section 1302 of this title, the surviving spouse’s rate shall be \$2,443.”.

7 (3) ADDITIONAL DIC FOR CHILDREN OR DIS-
 8 ABILITY.—Such section is further amended—
 9 (A) in subsection (b), by striking “\$257”
 10 and inserting “\$265”;
 11 (B) in subsection (c), by striking “\$257”
 12 and inserting “\$265”; and
 13 (C) in subsection (d), by striking “\$122”
 14 and inserting “\$126”.
 15 (e) DEPENDENCY AND INDEMNITY COMPENSATION
 16 FOR CHILDREN.—

1 (1) DIC WHEN NO SURVIVING SPOUSE.—Sec-
2 tion 1313(a) of such title is amended—

3 (A) in paragraph (1), by striking “\$438”
4 and inserting “\$452”;

5 (B) in paragraph (2), by striking “\$629”
6 and inserting “\$649”;

7 (C) in paragraph (3), by striking “\$819”
8 and inserting “\$846”; and

9 (D) in paragraph (4), by striking “\$819”
10 and “\$157” and inserting “\$846” and “\$162”,
11 respectively.

12 (2) SUPPLEMENTAL DIC FOR CERTAIN CHIL-
13 DREN.—Section 1314 of such title is amended—

14 (A) in subsection (a), by striking “\$257”
15 and inserting “\$265”;

16 (B) in subsection (b), by striking “\$438”
17 and inserting “\$452”; and

18 (C) in subsection (c), by striking “\$218”
19 and inserting “\$225”.

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