116TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. [Blank]

To direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to provide food to veterans under the grant and per diem grant programs of the Department of Veterans Affairs during certain public health emergencies.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. Ted Lieu of California introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on [Blank]

A BILL

To direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to provide food to veterans under the grant and per diem grant programs of the Department of Veterans Affairs during certain public health emergencies.

1 Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

3 SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Supporting At-risk Veterans in an Emergency Act” or the “SAVE Act”.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,
SEC. 2. GENERAL SUPPORT.

(a) USE OF FUNDS.—During a covered public health emergency, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs may use amounts appropriated or otherwise made available to the Department of Veterans Affairs to carry out sections 2011, 2012, and 2061 of title 38, United States Code, to provide food to homeless veterans.

(b) USE OF PER DIEM PAYMENTS.—During a covered public health emergency, a recipient of a grant or an eligible entity under the grant and per diem program of the Department (in this subsection referred to as the “program”) may use per diem payments under sections 2012 and 2061 of title 38, United States Code, to provide food and basic supplies for—

(1) homeless veterans in the program; and

(2) formerly homeless veterans in the community who experienced homelessness during the one-year period ending on the date of the enactment of this Act.

(c) COVERED PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY DEFINED.—In this section, the term “covered public health emergency” means—

(1) a public health emergency under the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5121 et seq.); or
(2) an emergency with respect to COVID–19 declared by a Federal, State, or local authority.