



Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act¹ **Provisions related to Veterans**

The Department of Veterans' Affairs (VA) is receiving \$19.6 Billion through the *Cares Act*. The VA serves as a backup health system in times of crisis—often referred to as the VA's 4th mission. These funds will help ensure continuity of service to our Veterans, including homeless and low income Veterans, and prepare for the possibility of being activated for 4th mission.

Medical Services

Provides \$14.4 billion to support increased demand for healthcare services at VA facilities and through telehealth, including the purchase of medical equipment and supplies, testing kits, and personal protective equipment (PPE). It will also enable the VA to provide additional support for vulnerable veterans, including through programs to assist homeless or at-risk of becoming homeless veterans, as well as within VA-run nursing homes and community living centers.

Medical Community Care

Provides \$2.1 billion to support increased demand for care in the community, specifically emergency room and urgent care.

Tele-Health for Case Managers and Homeless Veterans

Ensures telehealth capabilities are available for case managers and homeless veterans participating in the HUD–VASH program, allowing efficient access to our most vulnerable veterans.

Financial Assistance for Support Services for Low Income Veterans

Waives limits on grant amounts and rates for *per diem* payments for temporary housing to maximize social distancing within the vulnerable homeless veteran population.

Modifications to Comprehensive Service Programs for Homeless Veterans

Waives funding limits for financial assistance for supportive services for very low-income veteran families in permanent housing during the public health emergency.

This document was prepared as an informational resource and should not be considered legal or business counsel. Please reach out to CoronavirusHelp@braun.senate.gov for general help, or to Jon Kenworthy at Jon_Kenworthy@Braun.Senate.gov for Veteran-related questions, concerns, or additional assistance. Last updated March 27, 2020.

¹ [H.R.748](#), the *Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act* was approved unanimously by the Senate on March 25, 2020.