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(Original Signature of Member)

112TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. _____

To exclude from consideration as income under the United States Housing Act of 1937 payments of pension made under section 1521 of title 38, United States Code, to veterans who are in need of regular aid and attendance, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. HECK (for himself and Mr. GARY G. MILLER of California) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on

A BILL

To exclude from consideration as income under the United States Housing Act of 1937 payments of pension made under section 1521 of title 38, United States Code, to veterans who are in need of regular aid and attendance, 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.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Vulnerable Veterans
5 Housing Reform Act of 2012”.

1 **SEC. 2. EXCLUSION FROM INCOME.**

2 Paragraph (4) of section 3(b) of the United States
3 Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437a(b)(4)) is amend-
4 ed—

5 (1) by striking “and any amounts” and insert-
6 ing “, any amounts”;

7 (2) by striking “or any deferred” and inserting
8 “, any deferred”; and

9 (3) by inserting after “prospective monthly
10 amounts” the following: “, and any expenses related
11 to aid and attendance as detailed under section 1521
12 of title 38, United States Code”.

13 **SEC. 3. UTILITY ALLOWANCES AND DATA.**

14 Section 8(o) of the United States Housing Act of
15 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437f(o)) is amended—

16 (1) in paragraph (2), by adding at the end the
17 following new subparagraph:

18 “(D) UTILITY ALLOWANCE.—

19 “(i) IN GENERAL.—In determining
20 the monthly assistance payment for a fam-
21 ily under subparagraphs (A) and (B), the
22 amount allowed for tenant-paid utilities
23 shall not exceed the appropriate utility al-
24 lowance for the family unit size as deter-
25 mined by the public housing agency re-

1 gardless of the size of the dwelling unit
2 leased by the family.

3 “(ii) EXCEPTION FOR FAMILIES IN-
4 CLUDING PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES.—
5 Notwithstanding subparagraph (A), upon
6 request by a family that includes a person
7 with disabilities, the public housing agency
8 shall approve a utility allowance that is
9 higher than the applicable amount on the
10 utility allowance schedule if a higher utility
11 allowance is needed as a reasonable accom-
12 modation to make the program accessible
13 to and usable by the family member with
14 a disability.”; and

15 (2) by adding at the end the following new
16 paragraph:

17 “(21) UTILITY DATA.—

18 “(A) PUBLICATION.—The Secretary shall,
19 to the extent that data can be collected cost ef-
20 fectively, regularly publish such data regarding
21 utility consumption and costs in local areas as
22 the Secretary determines will be useful for the
23 establishment of allowances for tenant-paid util-
24 ities for families assisted under this subsection.

1 “(B) USE OF DATA.—The Secretary shall
2 provide such data in a manner that—
3 “(i) avoids unnecessary administrative
4 burdens for public housing agencies and
5 owners; and
6 “(ii) protects families in various unit
7 sizes and building types, and using various
8 utilities, from high rent and utility cost
9 burdens relative to income.”.