

Senate Amendment 88 to S. 326 would make several changes to health care, home loan, and other benefit programs administered by the Department of Veterans Affairs.

Estimated Direct Spending Effects of Senate Amendment 88 to Senate Amendment 88 to S. 326, the Elizabeth Dole Veterans Programs Improvement Act of 2023
 As posted to the Senate Amendment Tracking System on April 26, 2023

<https://ats.senate.gov/Display.aspx?ID=88>

	By Fiscal Year, Millions of Dollars											2023-2028	2023-2033
	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033		
	Increases or Decreases in Direct Spending												
Sec. 103, All-inclusive Care for Elderly	0	1	2	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	24	79
Sec. 105, Caregiver Support Services	0	1	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	1	1
Sec. 107, Home Maker & Health Aide Program	0	*	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	2
Sec. 202, Family Caregiver Program Eligibility	*	3	7	11	16	17	18	20	21	22	24	54	159
Sec. 402, Native American Home Loan Relending Program	0	1	4	4	4	4	4	5	5	5	5	17	41
Sec. 403, Home Loan Fees	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-297	0	0	-297
Sec. 502, Oversight of Toxic Exposures Fund	*	*	1	*	*	*	1	*	*	*	1	1	3
Total Changes in Direct Spending	*	6	15	22	27	29	32	35	37	-258	43	99	-12

* = between zero and \$500,000, budget authority equals outlays for all sections.

Section 401 would have an insignificant effect on direct spending.

Some of the beneficiaries affected by sections 103, 105, 107, 202, and 502 would be veterans who have been exposed to environmental hazards, and CBO expects that some of the costs of implementing those sections would be paid from the Toxic Exposures Fund (TEF) established by Public Law 117-168, the Honoring our PACT Act. The TEF is a mandatory appropriation that VA will use to pay for health care, disability claims processing, medical research, and IT modernization that benefit veterans who were exposed to environmental hazards. Additional spending from the TEF would occur if legislation increases the costs of similar activities that benefit veterans with such exposure. The portion of the costs of those sections that would be paid from the TEF, and thus would be classified as direct spending, are included in this estimate.

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The bill would make the following changes to health care and home loan benefit programs administered by the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA).



- Section 103 would increase the number of veterans for whom VA pays for long-term care under the Program of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly.
- Section 105 would require VA to help veterans and caregivers of veterans enroll in available long-term health and support services.
- Section 107 would require VA to provide homemaker and home health aide services to veterans who reside in areas with shortages of home health aides.
- Section 202 would increase the number of medical and mental health care staff needed at VA medical facilities.
- Section 402 would authorize VA to lend money to community development financial institutions that would relend the money to Native American veterans to acquire, improve, or refinance homes located on trust land.
- Section 403 would temporarily increase the fees that VA charges borrowers for home loan guarantees in 2032.
- Section 502 would establish additional oversight and reporting requirements for the Toxic Exposures Fund.

In addition to effects on direct spending shown in the table, implementing the bill also would increase spending subject to appropriation by \$645 million over the 2023-2033 period, CBO estimates.

CBO previously transmitted cost estimates for bills ordered reported by the Senate Committee on Veterans' Affairs on February 16, 2023, which are identical or substantially similar to provisions in Senate amendment 87 to S. 326. Accordingly, the estimated costs of those provisions are the same, except for section 401. [S. 141](#) is similar to title 1, [S. 216](#) is similar to title 2, [S. 326](#) is similar to title 3, and [S. 106](#) is similar to title 5 of the amendment. [S. 185](#) is similar to sections 401 and 402 of the amendment, except that the estimate for section 401 has been revised to account for the lower mortgage rates announced by the Department of Veterans Affairs on March 22, 2023.

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