

SB-70

This bill will provide funding for shelter and support for youth (ages 13-17) experiencing homelessness, as well as support for the family/home of origin, and the temporary host home.

IN THE SENATE OF THE AMERICAN LEGION BOYS NATION

Mr. Merrell of Texas introduced the following bill;

A BILL

This bill will provide funding for shelter and support for youth (ages 13-17) experiencing homelessness, as well as support for the family/home of origin, and the temporary host home.

Be it enacted by The American Legion Boys Nation Senate assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Shelter and Support for Homeless Youth Act".

SECTION 2.EXPLANATION OF TERMINOLOGY

(1) Youth -- a person between the ages of 13 and 18

(2) Homeless -- Subtitle VII-B of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (per Title IX, Part A of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, as amended by the Every Student Succeeds Act) defines homeless as follows:

(a) means individuals who lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence (within the

meaning of section 103(a)(1)); and

(b)Includes--

(i) children and youths who are sharing the housing of other persons due to loss of housing, economic hardship, or a similar reason; children and youths living in motels, hotels, trailer parks, or camping grounds due to the lack of alternative adequate accommodations; are living in emergency or transitional shelters; or are abandoned in hospitals;

(ii) children and youths who have a primary nighttime residence that is a public or private place not designed for or ordinarily used as a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings (within the meaning of section 103(a)(2)(C));

(iii) children and youths who are living in cars, parks, public spaces, abandoned buildings, substandard housing, bus or train stations, or similar settings; and

(iv) migratory children (as such term is defined in section 1309 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965) who qualify as homeless for the purposes of this subtitle because the children are living in circumstances described in clauses (i) through (iii).

SECTION 3. APPROPRIATIONS FOR SHELTER AND SUPPORT FOR HOMELESS YOUTH.

There are hereby appropriated, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, for any period during which interim or full-year appropriations for homeless youth are not in effect --

(1) Such sums as are necessary to provide compensation and allowances to host homes for food, clothing, and essential items of homeless youth, ages 13 to 18, who qualify for homeless designation under the McKinney-Vento Act (Subtitle VII-B of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (per Title IX, Part A of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, as amended by the Every Student Succeeds Act);

(2) Such sums as are necessary to provide pay and compensation for counselors and mental health professionals for the youth, family of origin, and host home;

(3) Such sums as are necessary to provide compensation to approved financial advisors of families of origin;

(4) Such sums as are necessary for host homes--

(a) Recurring expenses for youth

(i) Food allowance;

(ii) Clothing allowance;

(iii) Partial/provisional mortgage allowance.

(b) Medical expenses for youth

(i) Well-checks

(ii) Dental

(iii) Eye care

(c) Transitional expenses for youth

(i) Such sums as are necessary to provide down payment on personal vehicle, or payment in full of personal vehicle (not including automobile insurance);

(ii) Such sums as are necessary to provide down payment on housing at graduation or attainment of GED.

SECTION 4. FUNDING

Shelter and support will be funded by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services with oversight by the Administration for Children and Families on state level.

SECTION 5. TERMINATION

Appropriations and funds made available and authority granted pursuant to this Act shall be available

until whichever of the following first occurs:

(1) The enactment into law of an appropriation (including continuing appropriation) for any purpose for which amounts are made available in section 2.

(2) The enactment into law of the applicable regular or continuing appropriations resolution or other Act without any appropriation for such purpose.