

THE WHITE HOUSE
JUN 14 1944
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DEPARTMENT OF STATE
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JUN 22 1944
DIVISION OF RECORDS AND COMMUNICATIONS

**Seventy-eighth Congress of the United States of America;
At the Second Session**

Begun and held at the City of Washington on Monday, the tenth
day of January, one thousand nine hundred and forty-four

AN ACT

To provide Federal Government aid for the readjustment in civilian
life of returning World War II veterans.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the
United States of America in Congress assembled, That this Act may
be cited as the "Servicemen's Readjustment Act of 1944".*

TITLE I

CHAPTER I—HOSPITALIZATION, CLAIMS, AND PROCEDURES

SEC. 100. The Veterans' Administration is hereby declared to be
an essential war agency and entitled, second only to the War and
Navy Departments, to priorities in personnel, equipment, supplies,
and material under any laws, Executive orders, and regulations per-
taining to priorities, and in appointments of personnel from civil-
service registers the Administrator of Veterans' Affairs is hereby
granted the same authority and discretion as the War and Navy
Departments and the United States Public Health Service: *Provided,*
That the provisions of this section as to priorities for materials shall
apply to any State institution to be built for the care or hospitali-
zation of veterans.

SEC. 101. The Administrator of Veterans' Affairs and the Federal
Board of Hospitalization are hereby authorized and directed to
expedite and complete the construction of additional hospital facili-
ties for war veterans, and to enter into agreements and contracts
for the use by or transfer to the Veterans' Administration of suitable
Army and Navy hospitals after termination of hostilities in the
present war or after such institutions are no longer needed by the
armed services; and the Administrator of Veterans' Affairs is hereby
authorized and directed to establish necessary regional offices, sub-
offices, branch offices, contact units, or other subordinate offices in
centers of population where there is no Veterans' Administration
facility, or where such a facility is not readily available or accessible:
Provided, That there is hereby authorized to be appropriated the sum
of \$500,000,000 for the construction of additional hospital facilities.

SEC. 102. The Administrator of Veterans' Affairs and the Secretary
of War and Secretary of the Navy are hereby granted authority to
enter into agreements and contracts for the mutual use or exchange

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the agency disbursing such adjusted compensation shall first pay the unpaid balance and accrued interest due on such loan to the holder of the evidence of such indebtedness to the extent that the amount of adjusted compensation which may be payable will permit.


Speaker of the House of Representatives.


Acting President pro tempore of the Senate.

Approved ^{and}
June 22nd 1944
Franklin D. Roosevelt *At.*