



**Fiscal Year 2017
Appropriations Wins**

**Congressman Henry Cuellar
28th Congressional District, TX**

Fiscal Year 2017 HOUSE Appropriations Wins

MILCON - VA

1. HUD-VASH Program: Encouraging the VA to work with local social service agencies in rural and small communities.

“HUD-VASH program.- The Committee recognizes the important contributions the HUD-VASH program has made in reducing the number of homeless veterans and commends VA for implementing a case management system that keeps veterans housed longer by providing the supportive care many of them require. The Committee encourages VA to more creatively and collaboratively work with local social service agencies, especially in rural and small communities, to ensure that HUD-VASH voucher recipients are receiving the most comprehensive services available to them. Many jurisdictions around the country are implementing their own coordinated care initiatives alongside public housing programs, and in the interest of maximizing public investment and providing the best, most comprehensive care available, VA should seek to partner with local and State governments when possible. The Committee requests a report not later than 60 days after enactment of this Act identifying how many HUD-VASH vouchers are given to female veterans with children, female veterans without children, male veterans with children, and male veterans without children in each State. The report should also include the number of HUD-VASH vouchers distributed to veterans in rural, suburban, and urban areas per State.”

2. Furniture and household items for formerly homeless veterans: Encouraging the VA to conduct a pilot-program to supply formerly homeless veterans with furniture, household items, and other assistance.

*“Related needs of homeless veterans.-*While VA has made strides in reducing veteran homelessness, its program clients need additional support beyond shelter. The Committee remains interested in the feasibility, advisability and cost of VA conducting a pilot program to award grants to eligible organizations to provide furniture, household items, and other assistance to formerly homeless veterans who have transitioned to permanent housing. The Committee requests a report on this concept not later than 60 days after enactment of this Act.”