AMENDMENT NO. 4399

Purpose: To require Congress to provide housing for America's veterans before funding special interest pork projects.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES—110th Cong., 2d Sess.

H. R. 3221

AMENDMENT No. 4399

Moved

By Coburn

To: H.R. 3221

Page(s)

Referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

Ordered to lie on the table and to be printed

AMENDMENT intended to be proposed by Mr. Coburn

Viz:

1. At the appropriate place, insert the following:

2. SEC. ___. VETERANS HOUSING.

3. (a) SHORT TITLE.—This section may be cited as the “Housing for Heroes Act of 2008”.

(b) AUTHORITY OF THE SECRETARY TO REPROGRAM FUNDS.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the
Secretary of Housing and Urban Development may reprogram any funds appropriated or otherwise made available under this or any other Act for the Department of Housing and Urban Development that are intended to be used for any congressionally directed spending item to provide housing assistance to veterans of the Armed Forces who are eligible for housing assistance under the laws administered by the Secretary.

(c) REPORT OF THE SECRETARY ON VETERANS HOUSING.—Prior to September 30 of each fiscal year beginning with fiscal year 2008, the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development shall report annually to Congress and make available on its public Internet website a description of:

(1) The total number of veterans of the Armed Forces who sought housing assistance under any law administered by the Secretary in the preceding 12 months.

(2) The total number of veterans of the Armed Forces who received any such housing assistance in the preceding 12 months.

(3) The total number of veterans of the Armed Forces who did not receive such housing assistance due to a lack of funding in the preceding 12 months.
(4) The total number of section 8 vouchers applied for by veterans of the Armed Forces

(5) The total number of section 8 vouchers provided to veterans of the Armed Forces who were eligible for such vouchers.

(6) The total number of section 8 vouchers that could not be provided to veterans of the Armed Forces who were determined eligible for such vouchers within 6 months of that veteran submitting an application pursuant to section 8(o)(19) of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437f(o)(19) due to a lack of funding.

(7) The total number and cost of congressionally directed spending items in the annual budget of the Department of Housing and Urban Development.

(8) The number and total amount of congressionally directed spending items in the annual budget of the Department of Housing and Urban Development that have been reprogrammed to support housing assistance for veterans of the Armed Forces.

(9) A listing of any congressionally directed spending items for which funding was not reprogrammed and an explanation for each why such funds were not reprogrammed if there are any vet-
erans of the Armed Forces who are not receiving
housing assistance due to a lack of funding.
(d) CURRENT FUNDING.—For fiscal year 2008, the
Secretary of Housing and Urban Development may reprogram any unobligated funds appropriated or otherwise
made available under any prior Act for the Department
of Housing and Urban Development that are intended to
be used for any congressionally directed spending item.
(e) DEFINITIONS.—As used in this section—
(1) the term “congressionally directed spending
item” has the same meaning given that term under
section 521 of the Honest Leadership and Open
Government Act of 2007 (Public Law 110-81); and
(2) the term “section 8 voucher” means a
voucher available to eligible veterans under section
8(o)(19) of the United States Housing Act of 1937
(42 U.S.C. 1437f(o)(19)).