

117TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

**S.** \_\_\_\_\_

To authorize the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to provide support to university law school programs that are designed to provide legal assistance to veterans, and for other purposes.

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

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Mrs. SHAHEEN introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on \_\_\_\_\_

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**A BILL**

To authorize the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to provide support to university law school programs that are designed to provide legal assistance to veterans, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Veterans Legal Sup-  
5 port Act of 2021”.

1 **SEC. 2. DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS SUPPORT**  
2 **FOR UNIVERSITY LEGAL CLINICS THAT AS-**  
3 **SIST VETERANS.**

4 (a) **SUPPORT AUTHORIZED.**—The Secretary of Vet-  
5 erans Affairs may provide support to one or more univer-  
6 sity law school programs that are designed to provide legal  
7 assistance to veterans.

8 (b) **ELIGIBLE PROGRAMS.**—Programs of university  
9 law schools which may receive support under subsection  
10 (a) may include programs that assist veterans with—

11 (1) filing and appealing claims for benefits  
12 under laws administered by the Secretary; and

13 (2) such other civil, criminal, and family legal  
14 matters as the Secretary considers appropriate.

15 (c) **FINANCIAL SUPPORT.**—

16 (1) **IN GENERAL.**—The support provided a pro-  
17 gram under subsection (a) may include financial  
18 support of the program.

19 (2) **LIMITATION ON AMOUNT.**—The total  
20 amount of financial support provided under sub-  
21 section (a) in any fiscal year may not exceed  
22 \$2,000,000.

23 (3) **FUNDING.**—Amounts for financial support  
24 under subsection (a) shall be derived from amounts  
25 appropriated or otherwise made available to the

- 1 General Operating Expenses account of the Veterans
- 2 Benefits Administration.