RESOLUTION 12-22

SUBJECT: VA Enhanced-Use Leases Of Real Property

WHEREAS, Under Title 38, Subchapter V, Section 81, § 8162 the Secretary may in accordance with this subchapter enter into leases with respect to real property that is under the jurisdiction or control of the Secretary. Any such lease under this subchapter may be referred to as an “enhanced-use lease”; and

WHEREAS, VA enhanced-use leasing allows for the fostering of partnerships with Veterans Service Organizations, the Department of Defense and other Federal agencies, state and local veterans organizations and other stakeholders to leverage resources and enhance the quality of services provided to veterans; and

WHEREAS, The Department of Veterans Affairs utilizes this unique capital asset to lease VA owned land or facilities to public, private and/or non-profit organizations that the Secretary deems to be contributing to the overall VA mission for up to 75 years; and

WHEREAS, Many of VA’s enhanced-use leases are used for programs for homeless veterans and other disadvantaged veteran programs; and

WHEREAS, Under Title 38, Section 81, §8164, if the Secretary determines during the term of an EU lease or within 30 days of its expiration, that the leased property is no longer needed by the Department, the Secretary may initiate action to transfer all rights, ownership, and interest in the property to the lessee; and

WHEREAS, Under Title 38, Section 81, § 8169 the authority of the Secretary to enter into enhanced-use leases under this subchapter will expire on December 31, 2011: now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, AMVETS calls upon Congress to extend this program for an additional 20 years beginning no later than December 31, 2011.