THE SECRETARY OF VETERANS AFFAIRS WASHINGTON



May 5, 2025

The Honorable Richard Blumenthal Ranking Member Committee on Veterans' Affairs United States Senate Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Blumenthal:

Thank you for your April 9, 2025, co-signed letter to the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) concerning the closure of the Veterans Affairs Servicing Purchase (VASP) program. I appreciate the opportunity to respond.

VA's home loan guaranty program is designed to help Veterans obtain and retain their homes by offering a limited guaranty on the loan. However, serving as a mortgage loan restructuring service is not VA's core mission, and VA was not given the authority from Congress to do so. On May 1, 2025, the VASP program stopped accepting new enrollees. Also on May 1, 2025, VA rescinded VA's Home Retention Waterfall, which provides VASP as a loss mitigation option. These changes will not impact VA's loan guaranty services (https://lgy.va.gov/lgyhub/) for Veterans, affect Veterans who have received a VASP, or impact any qualifying Veterans who completed their VASP enrollment prior to May 1, 2025.

While VA will not accept submissions for new VASPs on or after May 1, 2025, VA continued to review and process servicers' new VASP requests until 11:59 p.m. EDT on April 30, 2025, subject to VA's determination that funds remained available. Also, VA will not rescind active trial payment plans (TPP) that predate May 1, 2025, meaning VA will allow those TPPs to proceed as agreed and will purchase successful loans. Based on the May 1, 2025, VASP rescission, we expect all TPPs to end by August 31, 2025.

Veterans still have other loss mitigation options available for assistance. We are communicating with mortgage servicers to ensure a timely and orderly wind down of VASP and will continue to offer a comprehensive loss mitigation program to help Veterans with VA-guaranteed home loans avoid foreclosure. VA still has a full suite of home retention options, including forbearance, repayment plans, and modifications, and alternatives to foreclosure such as a short sale and deed in lieu of foreclosure. VA will continue to help Veterans retain their homes or avoid foreclosure with the vigor that Veterans deserve.

I remain committed to engaging with Congress and other stakeholders on current and future VA loss mitigation options, including those that may require new statutory authority for VA to implement. Page 2.

The Honorable Richard Blumenthal

Thank you for your continued support of our mission. The other signatories have received a courtesy copy of this response.

Sincerely,

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Douglas A. Collins

Cc: The Honorable Mark Takano, Ranking Member, House Committee on Veterans' Affairs The Honorable Elizabeth Warren The Honorable Rosa L. DeLauro, Ranking Member, House Committee on Appropriations The Honorable Debbie Wasserman Schultz The Honorable Morgan McGarvey The Honorable Delia C. Ramirez The Honorable Sheila Cherfilus-McCormick The Honorable Timothy M. Kennedy The Honorable Nikki Budzinski The Honorable Herbert C. Conaway Jr. The Honorable Julia Brownley The Honorable Ruben Gallego The Honorable Mazie K. Hirono The Honorable Angus S. King Jr. The Honorable Jack Reed The Honorable Tammy Duckworth The Honorable Kelly Morrison The Honorable Chris Pappas The Honorable Maxine Dexter The Honorable Andy Kim The Honorable Lisa Blunt Rochester