

**AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE  
TO H.R. 3218  
OFFERED BY MR. ROE OF TENNESSEE**

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

**1 SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.**

2 (a) **SHORT TITLE.**—This Act may be cited as the  
3 “Harry W. Colmery Veterans Educational Assistance Act  
4 of 2017”.

5 (b) **TABLE OF CONTENTS.**—The table of contents for  
6 this Act is as follows:

- Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.
- Sec. 2. References to title 38, United States Code.

**TITLE I—POST-9/11 EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM**

- Sec. 101. Consideration of certain time spent receiving medical care from Secretary of Defense as active duty for purposes of eligibility for Post-9/11 Educational Assistance.
- Sec. 102. Educational assistance under Post-9/11 Educational Assistance Program for members of the Armed Forces awarded the Purple Heart.
- Sec. 103. Inclusion of Fry Scholarship recipients and Purple Heart recipients in Yellow Ribbon G.I. Education Enhancement Program.
- Sec. 104. Consolidation of certain eligibility tiers under Post-9/11 Educational Assistance Program of the Department of Veterans Affairs.
- Sec. 105. Eligibility for Post-9/11 Educational Assistance for certain members of reserve components of Armed Forces who lost entitlement to educational assistance under Reserve Educational Assistance Program.
- Sec. 106. Calculation of monthly housing stipend under Post-9/11 Educational Assistance Program based on location of campus where classes are attended.
- Sec. 107. Charge to entitlement for certain licensure and certification tests and national tests under Department of Veterans Affairs Post-9/11 Educational Assistance Program.

- Sec. 108. Restoration of entitlement to educational assistance and other relief for veterans affected by school closure or disapproval.
- Sec. 109. Additional authorized transfer of unused Post-9/11 Educational Assistance benefits to dependents upon death of originally designated dependent.
- Sec. 110. Edith Nourse Rogers STEM Scholarship.
- Sec. 111. Honoring the national service of members of the Armed Forces by elimination of time limitation for use of entitlement.
- Sec. 112. Monthly stipend for certain members of the reserve components of the Armed Forces receiving Post-9/11 Educational Assistance.
- Sec. 113. Improvement of information technology of the veterans benefits administration of the Department of Veterans Affairs.
- Sec. 114. Department of Veterans Affairs high technology pilot program.

#### TITLE II—OTHER EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

- Sec. 201. Work-study allowance.
- Sec. 202. Duration of educational assistance under Survivors' and Dependents' Educational Assistance Program.
- Sec. 203. Olin E. Teague increase in amounts of educational assistance payable under Survivors' and Dependents' Educational Assistance Program.

#### TITLE III—ADMINISTRATION OF EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

- Sec. 301. State approving agency funding.
- Sec. 302. Authorization for use of Post-9/11 Educational Assistance to pursue independent study programs at certain educational institutions that are not institutions of higher learning.
- Sec. 303. Provision of information on priority enrollment for veterans in certain courses of education.
- Sec. 304. Limitation on use of reporting fees payable to educational institutions and sponsors of programs of apprenticeship.
- Sec. 305. Training for school certifying officials.
- Sec. 306. Extension of authority for Advisory Committee on Education.
- Sec. 307. Department of Veterans Affairs provision of on-campus educational and vocational counseling for veterans.
- Sec. 308. Provision of information regarding veteran entitlement to educational assistance.
- Sec. 309. Treatment, for purposes of educational assistance administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, of educational courses that begin seven or fewer days after the first day of an academic term.

#### TITLE IV—RESERVE COMPONENT BENEFITS

- Sec. 401. Eligibility of reserve component members for Post-9/11 Educational Assistance.
- Sec. 402. Time limitation for training and rehabilitation for veterans with service-connected disabilities.

#### TITLE V—OTHER MATTERS

- Sec. 501. Repeal inapplicability of modification of basic allowance for housing to benefits under laws administered by Secretary of Veterans Affairs.

1 **SEC. 2. REFERENCES TO TITLE 38, UNITED STATES CODE.**

2 Except as otherwise expressly provided, whenever in  
3 this Act an amendment or repeal is expressed in terms  
4 of an amendment to, or repeal of, a section or other provi-  
5 sion, the reference shall be considered to be made to a  
6 section or other provision of title 38, United States Code.

7 **TITLE I—POST-9/11 EDU-**  
8 **CATIONAL ASSISTANCE PRO-**  
9 **GRAM**

10 **SEC. 101. CONSIDERATION OF CERTAIN TIME SPENT RE-**  
11 **CEIVING MEDICAL CARE FROM SECRETARY**  
12 **OF DEFENSE AS ACTIVE DUTY FOR PUR-**  
13 **POSES OF ELIGIBILITY FOR POST-9/11 EDU-**  
14 **CATIONAL ASSISTANCE.**

15 (a) **IN GENERAL.**—Section 3301(1)(B) is amended  
16 by inserting “12301(h),” after “12301(g),”.

17 (b) **RETROACTIVE APPLICATION.**—The amendment  
18 made by subsection (a) shall apply with respect to service  
19 in the Armed Forces occurring on or after September 11,  
20 2001.

21 (c) **APPLICATION WITH RESPECT TO USE OF ENTI-**  
22 **TLEMENT.**—An individual who is entitled to educational  
23 assistance by reason of the amendment made by sub-  
24 section (a) may use such entitlement to pursue a course  
25 of education beginning on or after August 1, 2018.

1 **SEC. 102. EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE UNDER POST-9/11**  
2 **EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM FOR**  
3 **MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES AWARDED**  
4 **THE PURPLE HEART.**

5 (a) **ELIGIBILITY.**—Section 3311(b) is amended by  
6 adding at the end the following new paragraph:

7 “(10) An individual who is awarded the Purple  
8 Heart for service in the Armed Forces occurring on  
9 or after September 11, 2001, and continues to serve  
10 on active duty in the Armed Forces or is discharged  
11 or released from active duty as described in sub-  
12 section (c).”.

13 (b) **AMOUNT OF ASSISTANCE.**—Section 3313(c)(1) is  
14 amended by striking “or (9)” and inserting “(9), or (10)”.

15 (c) **EFFECTIVE DATE.**—The amendments made by  
16 this section shall take effect on August 1, 2018.

17 **SEC. 103. INCLUSION OF FRY SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS**  
18 **AND PURPLE HEART RECIPIENTS IN YELLOW**  
19 **RIBBON G.I. EDUCATION ENHANCEMENT**  
20 **PROGRAM.**

21 (a) **IN GENERAL.**—Section 3317(a) is amended in the  
22 second sentence by striking “paragraphs (1) and (2)” and  
23 inserting “paragraphs (1), (2), (9), and (10)”.

24 (b) **EFFECTIVE DATE.**—The amendment made by  
25 subsection (a) shall take effect on August 1, 2018.

1 **SEC. 104. CONSOLIDATION OF CERTAIN ELIGIBILITY TIERS**  
2 **UNDER POST-9/11 EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE**  
3 **PROGRAM OF THE DEPARTMENT OF VET-**  
4 **ERANS AFFAIRS.**

5 (a) ENTITLEMENT.—Section 3311(b), as amended by  
6 section 102, is further amended—

7 (1) in paragraph (6)(A), by striking “12  
8 months” and inserting “6 months”;

9 (2) by striking paragraph (7); and

10 (3) by redesignating paragraphs (8), (9), and  
11 (10) as paragraphs (7), (8), and (9), respectively.

12 (b) AMOUNT OF EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE.—Sec-  
13 tion 3313(c) is amended by striking paragraph (7).

14 (c) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—Chapter 33 is fur-  
15 ther amended as follows:

16 (1) In section 3311(f), by striking “paragraph  
17 (9)” each place it appears and inserting “paragraph  
18 (8)”.

19 (2) In section 3313, as amended by section  
20 102—

21 (A) in subsection (c)(1), by striking “(9),  
22 or (10)” and inserting “(8), or (9)”;

23 (B) in subsection (d), by striking “para-  
24 graphs (2) through (7)” each place it appears  
25 and inserting “paragraphs (2) through (6)”;

26 (C) in subsection (e)(2)(C)—

1 (i) by striking “paragraphs (3)  
2 through (8)” and inserting “paragraphs  
3 (3) through (7)”; and

4 (ii) by striking “paragraphs (2)  
5 through (7)” and inserting “paragraphs  
6 (2) through (6)”.

7 (D) in subsection (f)(2)(A)(ii), by striking  
8 “paragraphs (2) through (7)” and inserting  
9 “paragraphs (2) through (6)”;

10 (E) in subsection (g)(3)—

11 (i) in subparagraph (A)(iv)—

12 (I) by striking “paragraphs (3)  
13 through (8)” and inserting “para-  
14 graphs (3) through (7)”; and

15 (II) by striking “paragraphs (2)  
16 through (7)” and inserting “para-  
17 graphs (2) through (6)”;

18 (ii) in subparagraph (B)(iii)—

19 (I) by striking “paragraphs (3)  
20 through (8)” and inserting “para-  
21 graphs (3) through (7)”; and

22 (II) by striking “paragraphs (2)  
23 through (7)” and inserting “para-  
24 graphs (2) through (6)”;

25 (iii) in subparagraph (C)(ii)—

1 (I) in subclause (I), by striking  
2 “(9)” and inserting “(8)”; and  
3 (II) in subclause (II)—  
4 (aa) by striking “paragraphs  
5 (3) through (8)” and inserting  
6 “paragraphs (3) through (7)”;  
7 and  
8 (bb) by striking “paragraphs  
9 (2) through (7)” and inserting  
10 “paragraphs (2) through (6)”;  
11 and  
12 (iv) in subparagraph (D)(ii)—  
13 (I) in subclause (I), by striking  
14 “(9)” and inserting “(8)”; and  
15 (II) in subclause (II)—  
16 (aa) by striking “paragraphs  
17 (3) through (8)” and inserting  
18 “paragraphs (3) through (7)”;  
19 and  
20 (bb) by striking “paragraphs  
21 (2) through (7)” and inserting  
22 “paragraphs (2) through (6)”;  
23 and

1 (F) in subsection (h), by striking “para-  
2 graphs (2) through (7)” and inserting “para-  
3 graphs (2) through (6)”;

4 (3) In section 3316—

5 (A) in subsection (a)(1), by striking “para-  
6 graphs (2) through (7)” and inserting “para-  
7 graphs (2) through (6)”;

8 (B) in subsection (b)(1), by striking “para-  
9 graphs (2) through (7)” and inserting “para-  
10 graphs (2) through (6)”.

11 (4) In section 3317(a), in the second sentence,  
12 as amended by section 103, by striking “paragraphs  
13 (1), (2), (9), and (10)” and inserting “paragraphs  
14 (1), (2), (8), and (9)”.

15 (5) In section 3321(b)(4), as amended by sec-  
16 tion 111, by striking “section 3311(b)(9)” and in-  
17 serting “section 3311(b)(8)”.

18 (6) In section 3322—

19 (A) in subsection (e), by striking  
20 “3311(b)(9)” and inserting “3311(b)(8)”;

21 (B) in subsection (f), by striking  
22 “3311(b)(9)” and inserting “3311(b)(8)”;

23 (C) in subsection (h)(2), by striking  
24 “3311(b)(9)” and inserting “3311(b)(8)”.



1           (7) In section 3679(e)(2)(B), by striking  
2           “3311(b)(9)” and inserting “3311(b)(8)”.

3           (d) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by  
4 this section shall take effect on August 1, 2020.

5 **SEC. 105. ELIGIBILITY FOR POST-9/11 EDUCATIONAL AS-**  
6 **SISTANCE FOR CERTAIN MEMBERS OF RE-**  
7 **SERVE COMPONENTS OF ARMED FORCES**  
8 **WHO LOST ENTITLEMENT TO EDUCATIONAL**  
9 **ASSISTANCE UNDER RESERVE EDUCATIONAL**  
10 **ASSISTANCE PROGRAM.**

11          (a) ELECTION.—Section 16167 of title 10, United  
12 States Code, is amended by adding at the end the fol-  
13 lowing new subsection:

14          “(c) ELIGIBILITY FOR POST-9/11 EDUCATIONAL AS-  
15 SISTANCE.—A member who loses eligibility for benefits  
16 under this chapter pursuant to subsection (b) shall be al-  
17 lowed to elect (in such form and manner as the Secretary  
18 of Veterans Affairs may prescribe) to have such service  
19 previously credited toward this chapter credited towards  
20 establishing eligibility for educational assistance under  
21 chapter 33 of title 38, notwithstanding the provisions of  
22 section 16163(e) of this title or section 3322(h)(1) of title  
23 38.”.

24          (b) QUALIFICATION OF SERVICE.—Section 3301(1)  
25 of title 38, United States Code, shall be construed to in-

1 clude, in the case of a member of a reserve component  
2 of the Armed Forces who, before November 25, 2015, es-  
3 tablished eligibility for educational assistance under chap-  
4 ter 1607 of title 10, United States Code, pursuant to sec-  
5 tion 16163(a)(1) of such title, but lost eligibility for such  
6 educational assistance pursuant to section 16167(b) of  
7 such title, service on active duty (as defined in section 101  
8 of such title) that satisfies the requirements of section  
9 16163(a)(1) of such title.

10 (c) ENTITLEMENT.—Section 3311(b)(6) of title 38,  
11 United States Code, as amended by section 104(a), shall  
12 be construed to include an individual who, before Novem-  
13 ber 25, 2015, established eligibility for educational assist-  
14 ance under chapter 1607 of title 10, United States Code,  
15 pursuant to section 16163(b) of such title, but lost such  
16 eligibility pursuant to section 16167(b) of such title.

17 (d) DURATION.—Notwithstanding section 3312 of  
18 title 38, United States Code, an individual who establishes  
19 eligibility for educational assistance under chapter 33 of  
20 such title by crediting towards such chapter service pre-  
21 viously credited towards chapter 1607 of title 10, United  
22 States Code, is only entitled to a number of months of  
23 educational assistance under section 3313 of title 38,  
24 United States Code, equal to the number of months of  
25 entitlement remaining under chapter 1607 of title 10,

1 United States Code, at the time of conversion to chapter  
2 33 of title 38, United States Code.

3 **SEC. 106. CALCULATION OF MONTHLY HOUSING STIPEND**  
4 **UNDER POST-9/11 EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE**  
5 **PROGRAM BASED ON LOCATION OF CAMPUS**  
6 **WHERE CLASSES ARE ATTENDED.**

7 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 3313(c)(1)(B)(i)(I) is  
8 amended by striking “the institution of higher learning at  
9 which the individual is enrolled” and inserting “the cam-  
10 pus of the institution of higher learning where the indi-  
11 vidual physically participates in a majority of classes”.

12 (b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by  
13 subsection (a) shall apply with respect to initial enrollment  
14 in a program of education on or after August 1, 2018.

15 **SEC. 107. CHARGE TO ENTITLEMENT FOR CERTAIN LICEN-**  
16 **SURE AND CERTIFICATION TESTS AND NA-**  
17 **TIONAL TESTS UNDER DEPARTMENT OF VET-**  
18 **ERANS AFFAIRS POST-9/11 EDUCATIONAL AS-**  
19 **SISTANCE PROGRAM.**

20 (a) LICENSURE AND CERTIFICATION TESTS.—Sub-  
21 section (c) of section 3315 is amended—

22 (1) by striking “shall be determined at the rate  
23 of one month (rounded to the nearest whole month)”  
24 and inserting “shall be pro-rated based on the actual

1 amount of the fee charged for the test relative to the  
2 rate for one month”; and

3 (2) by striking “for each amount paid that  
4 equals” and inserting “payable”.

5 (b) NATIONAL TESTS.—Section 3315A is amended—

6 (1) in subsection (a), by adding at the end the  
7 following new paragraph:

8 “(3) A national test that evaluates prior learn-  
9 ing and knowledge and provides an opportunity for  
10 course credit at an institution of higher learning as  
11 so described.”; and

12 (2) in subsection (c)—

13 (A) by striking “shall be determined at the  
14 rate of one month (rounded to the nearest  
15 whole month)” and inserting “shall be pro-  
16 rated based on the actual amount of the fee  
17 charged for the test relative to the rate for one  
18 month”; and

19 (B) by striking “for each amount paid that  
20 equals” and inserting “payable”.

21 (c) TESTS INCLUDED.—Section 3452(b) is amended  
22 in the last sentence—

23 (1) by striking “and national tests providing”  
24 and inserting “, national tests providing”; and

1           (2) by inserting before the period at the end the  
2 following: “, and national tests that evaluate prior  
3 learning and knowledge and provides an opportunity  
4 for course credit at an institution of higher learn-  
5 ing”.

6           (d) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by  
7 this Act shall apply to a test taken on or after August  
8 1, 2018.

9 **SEC. 108. RESTORATION OF ENTITLEMENT TO EDU-**  
10 **CATIONAL ASSISTANCE AND OTHER RELIEF**  
11 **FOR VETERANS AFFECTED BY SCHOOL CLO-**  
12 **SURE OR DISAPPROVAL.**

13           (a) SCHOOL CLOSURE OR DISAPPROVAL.—

14           (1) RESTORATION OF ENTITLEMENT.—Chapter  
15 36 is amended by adding at the end the following  
16 new section:

17 **“§ 3699. Effects of closure or disapproval of edu-**  
18 **cational institution**

19           “(a) CLOSURE OR DISAPPROVAL.—Any payment of  
20 educational assistance described in subsection (b) shall  
21 not—

22           “(1) be charged against any entitlement to edu-  
23 cational assistance of the individual concerned; or

1           “(2) be counted against the aggregate period  
2           for which section 3695 of this title limits the receipt  
3           of educational assistance by such individual.

4           “(b) EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE DESCRIBED.—Sub-  
5           ject to subsection (c), the payment of educational assist-  
6           ance described in this paragraph is the payment of such  
7           assistance to an individual for pursuit of a course or pro-  
8           gram of education at an educational institution under  
9           chapters 30, 32, 33, or 35 of this title, or chapters 1606  
10          or 1607 of title 10, if the Secretary determines that the  
11          individual—

12           “(1) was forced to discontinue the pursuit of  
13          such course or program as a result of—

14           “(A) the permanent closure of the edu-  
15          cational institution; or

16           “(B) the disapproval of the course or a  
17          course that is a necessary part of that program  
18          under this chapter by reason of—

19           “(i) a provision of law enacted after  
20          the date on which the individual enrolls at  
21          such institution affecting the approval or  
22          disapproval of courses under this chapter;  
23          or

24           “(ii) after the date on which the indi-  
25          vidual enrolls at such institution, the Sec-

1           retary prescribing or modifying regulations  
2           or policies of the Department affecting  
3           such approval or disapproval; and

4           “(2) did not receive credit or lost training time,  
5           toward completion of the program of education being  
6           so pursued.

7           “(c) PERIOD NOT CHARGED.—The period for which,  
8           by reason of this subsection, educational assistance is not  
9           charged against entitlement or counted toward the appli-  
10          cable aggregate period under section 3695 of this title  
11          shall not exceed the aggregate of—

12           “(1) the portion of the period of enrollment in  
13           the course from which the individual failed to receive  
14           credit or with respect to which the individual lost  
15           training time, as determined under subsection  
16           (b)(2), and

17           “(2) the period by which a monthly stipend is  
18           extended under section 3680(a)(2)(B) of this title.

19           “(d) CONTINUING PURSUIT OF DISAPPROVED  
20          COURSES.—(1) The Secretary may treat a course of edu-  
21          cation that is disapproved under this chapter as being ap-  
22          proved under this chapter with respect to an individual  
23          described in paragraph (2) if the Secretary determines,  
24          on a case-by-case basis, that—

1           “(A) such disapproval is the result of an action  
2           described in clause (i) or (ii) of subsection (b)(1)(B);  
3           and

4           “(B) continuing pursuing such course is in the  
5           best interest of the individual.

6           “(2) An individual described in this paragraph is an  
7           individual who is pursuing a course of education at an  
8           educational institution under chapters 30, 32, 33, or 35  
9           of this title, or chapters 1606 or 1607 of title 10, as of  
10          the date on which the course is disapproved under this  
11          chapter.”.

12           (2) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sec-  
13          tions at the beginning of such chapter is amended  
14          by inserting after the item relating to section 3698  
15          the following new item:

          “3699. Effects of closure or disapproval of educational institution.”.

16          (b) MONTHLY HOUSING STIPEND.—

17           (1) IN GENERAL.—Subsection (a) section 3680  
18          is amended—

19           (A) by striking the matter after paragraph  
20           (3)(B);

21           (B) in paragraph (3), by redesignating  
22          subparagraphs (A) and (B) as clauses (i) and  
23          (ii), respectively;



1 (C) by redesignating paragraphs (1)  
2 through (3) as subparagraphs (A) through (C),  
3 respectively;

4 (D) in the matter preceding subparagraph  
5 (A), as redesignated, in the first sentence, by  
6 striking “Payment of” and inserting “(1) Ex-  
7 cept as provided in paragraph (2), payment of”;  
8 and

9 (E) by adding at the end the following new  
10 paragraph (2):

11 “(2) Notwithstanding paragraph (1), the Secretary  
12 may, pursuant to such regulations as the Secretary shall  
13 prescribe, continue to pay allowances to eligible veterans  
14 and eligible persons enrolled in courses set forth in para-  
15 graph (1)(A)—

16 “(A) during periods when educational institu-  
17 tions are temporarily closed under an established  
18 policy based on an Executive order of the President  
19 or due to an emergency situation, except that the  
20 total number of weeks for which allowances may  
21 continue to be so payable in any 12-month period  
22 may not exceed four weeks; or

23 “(B) solely for the purpose of awarding a  
24 monthly housing stipend described in section 3313  
25 of this title, during periods following a permanent

1 closure of an educational institution, or following the  
2 disapproval of a course of study described in section  
3 3699(b)(1)(B) of this title, except that payment of  
4 such a stipend may only be continued until the ear-  
5 lier of—

6 “(i) the date of the end of the term, quar-  
7 ter, or semester during which the closure or dis-  
8 approval occurred; and

9 “(ii) the date that is 120 days after the  
10 date of the closure or disapproval.”.

11 (2) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Paragraph  
12 (1)(C)(ii) of such subsection, as redesignated, is  
13 amended by striking “described in subclause (A) of  
14 this clause” and inserting “described in clause (i)”.

15 (c) APPLICABILITY.—

16 (1) SCHOOL CLOSURE OR DISAPPROVAL.—

17 (A) IN GENERAL.—The amendments made  
18 by subsection (a) shall take effect on the date  
19 that is 90 days after the date of the enactment  
20 of this Act, and shall apply with respect to  
21 courses and programs of education discontinued  
22 as described in section 3699 of title 38, United  
23 States Code, as added by subsection (a)(1),  
24 after January 1, 2015.

1 (B) SPECIAL APPLICATION.—With respect  
2 to courses and programs of education discon-  
3 tinued as described in section 3699 of title 38,  
4 United States Code, as added by subsection  
5 (a)(1), during the period beginning January 1,  
6 2015, and ending on the date of the enactment  
7 of this Act, an individual who is unable to  
8 transfer credits from such program of education  
9 shall be deemed to be an individual who did not  
10 receive such credits, as described in subsection  
11 (b)(2) of such section. In carrying out this  
12 paragraph, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, in  
13 consultation with the Secretary of Education,  
14 shall establish procedures to determine whether  
15 credits are unable to be transferred.

16 (2) MONTHLY HOUSING STIPEND.—The amend-  
17 ments made by subsection (b) shall take effect on  
18 August 1, 2018, and shall apply with respect to  
19 courses and programs of education discontinued as  
20 described in section 3699 of title 38, United States  
21 Code, as added by such subsection, on or after the  
22 date of the enactment of this Act.

1 **SEC. 109. ADDITIONAL AUTHORIZED TRANSFER OF UNUSED**  
2 **POST-9/11 EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE BENE-**  
3 **FITS TO DEPENDENTS UPON DEATH OF**  
4 **ORIGINALLY DESIGNATED DEPENDENT.**

5 (a) TRANSFER UPON DEATH OF DEPENDENT.—Sec-  
6 tion 3319 is amended—

7 (1) in subsection (f)(1), by inserting after “sec-  
8 tion 3321” the following: “, and except as provided  
9 in subsection (k) or (l),”; and

10 (2) by adding at the end the following new sub-  
11 section:

12 “(k) ADDITIONAL TRANSFER UPON DEATH OF DE-  
13 PENDENT.—In the case of a dependent to whom entitle-  
14 ment to educational assistance is transferred under this  
15 section who dies before using all of such entitlement, the  
16 individual who transferred the entitlement to the depend-  
17 ent may transfer any remaining entitlement to a different  
18 eligible dependent, notwithstanding whether the individual  
19 is serving as a member of the Armed Forces when such  
20 transfer is executed.

21 “(l) TRANSFER BY DEPENDENT.—In the case of an  
22 individual who transfers entitlement to educational assist-  
23 ance under this section who dies before the dependent to  
24 whom entitlement to educational assistance is so trans-  
25 ferred has used all of such entitlement, such dependent

1 may transfer such entitlement to another eligible depend-  
2 ent in accordance with the provisions of this section.”.

3 (b) EFFECTIVE DATES.—

4 (1) ELIGIBLE DEATHS.—The amendments  
5 made by this section shall apply with respect to  
6 deaths occurring on or after August 1, 2009.

7 (2) USE OF ENTITLEMENT.—A dependent to  
8 whom entitlement to educational assistance is trans-  
9 ferred under subsection (k) or (l) of section 3319 of  
10 title 38, United States Code, as added by subsection  
11 (a), may use such entitlement to pursue a course of  
12 education beginning on or after August 1, 2018.

13 **SEC. 110. EDITH NOURSE ROGERS STEM SCHOLARSHIP.**

14 (a) IN GENERAL.—Subchapter II of chapter 33 is  
15 amended by adding at the end the following new section:

16 **“§ 3320. Edith Nourse Rogers STEM Scholarship**

17 “(a) IN GENERAL.—Subject to the limitation under  
18 subsection (f), the Secretary shall provide additional bene-  
19 fits to eligible individuals selected by the Secretary under  
20 this section. Such benefits shall be known as the ‘Edith  
21 Nourse Rogers STEM Scholarship’.

22 “(b) ELIGIBILITY.—For purposes of this section, an  
23 eligible individual is an individual—

24 “(1) who is or was entitled to educational as-  
25 sistance under section 3311 of this title;

1           “(2) who has used all of the educational assist-  
2           ance to which the individual is entitled under this  
3           chapter or will, based on the individual’s rate of  
4           usage, use all of such assistance within 180 days of  
5           applying for benefits under this section;

6           “(3) who applies for assistance under this sec-  
7           tion; and

8           “(4) who—

9           “(A) is an individual who—

10           “(i) is enrolled in a program of edu-  
11           cation leading to a post-secondary degree  
12           that requires more than the standard 128  
13           semester (or 192 quarter) credit hours for  
14           completion in—

15                   “(I) biological or biomedical  
16                   science;

17                   “(II) physical science;

18                   “(III) science technologies or  
19                   technicians;

20                   “(IV) computer and information  
21                   science and support services;

22                   “(V) mathematics or statistics;

23                   “(VI) engineering;

24                   “(VII) engineering technologies  
25                   or an engineering-related field;

1                   “(VIII) a health profession or re-  
2                   lated program;

3                   “(IX) a medical residency pro-  
4                   gram; or

5                   “(X) an agriculture science pro-  
6                   gram or a natural resources science  
7                   program.

8                   “(ii) has completed at least 60 stand-  
9                   ard semester (or 90 quarter) credit hours  
10                  in a field referred to in clause (i); or

11                  “(B) is an individual who has earned a  
12                  post-secondary degree in a field referred to in  
13                  subparagraph (A)(i) and is enrolled in a pro-  
14                  gram of education leading to a teaching certifi-  
15                  cation.

16                  “(c) PRIORITY.—In selecting eligible individuals to  
17                  receive additional benefits under this section, the Sec-  
18                  retary shall give priority to the following individuals:

19                   “(1) Individuals who require the most credit  
20                   hours described in subsection (b)(4).

21                   “(2) Individuals who are entitled to educational  
22                   assistance under this chapter by reason of para-  
23                   graph (1), (2), (8), or (9) of section 3311(b) of this  
24                   title.

1           “(d) AMOUNT OF ASSISTANCE.—(1) The Secretary  
2 shall pay to each eligible individual who receives additional  
3 benefits under this section the monthly amount payable  
4 under section 3313 of this title for not more than nine  
5 months of the program of education in which the indi-  
6 vidual is enrolled (adjusted with respect to the individual  
7 pursuant to section 3313(c), as appropriate), except that  
8 the aggregate amount paid to an individual under this sec-  
9 tion may not exceed \$30,000.

10           “(2) The Secretary may not pay to such an individual  
11 an amount in addition to the amount payable under para-  
12 graph (1) by reason of section 3317 of this title.

13           “(3) An individual who receives additional benefits  
14 under this section may also receive amounts payable by  
15 a college or university pursuant to section 3317 of this  
16 title.

17           “(e) PROHIBITION ON TRANSFER.—An individual  
18 who receives additional benefits under this section may not  
19 transfer any amount of such additional benefits under sec-  
20 tion 3319 of this title.

21           “(f) MAXIMUM AMOUNT OF TOTAL ASSISTANCE.—  
22 The total amount of benefits paid to all eligible individuals  
23 under this section may not exceed—

24                   “(1) \$25,000,000 for fiscal year 2019;



1           “(2) \$75,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2020  
2 through 2022; and

3           “(3) \$100,000,000 for fiscal year 2023 and  
4 each subsequent fiscal year.”.

5           (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections  
6 at the beginning of such chapter is amended by inserting  
7 after the item relating to section 3319 the following new  
8 item:

          “3320. Edith Nourse Rogers STEM Scholarship.”.

9           (c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—Section 3320 of title 38,  
10 United States Code, shall take effect on August 1, 2019.

11 **SEC. 111. HONORING THE NATIONAL SERVICE OF MEM-**  
12 **BERS OF THE ARMED FORCES BY ELIMI-**  
13 **NATION OF TIME LIMITATION FOR USE OF**  
14 **ENTITLEMENT.**

15           (a) IN GENERAL.—Subsection (a) of section 3321  
16 amended—

17           (1) by striking “individual’s entitlement” and  
18 all that follows through the period and inserting “in-  
19 dividual’s entitlement—”; and

20           (2) by adding at the end the following new  
21 paragraphs:

22           “(1) in the case of an individual who first be-  
23 comes entitled to such entitlement before January,  
24 1, 2013, expires at the end of the 15-year period be-

1       ginning on the date of such individual’s last dis-  
2       charge or release from active duty; or

3               “(2) in the case of an individual who first be-  
4       comes entitled to such entitlement on or after Janu-  
5       ary 1, 2013, shall not expire.”.

6       (b) CHILDREN OF DECEASED MEMBERS.—Sub-  
7       section (b)(4) of such section is amended—

8               (1) by inserting “of this title” after  
9       “3311(b)(9)”;

10              (2) by striking “child’s entitlement” and all  
11       that follows through the period and inserting  
12       “child’s entitlement—”; and

13              (3) by adding at the end the following new sub-  
14       paragraphs:

15                      “(A) in the case of a child who first be-  
16       comes entitled to such entitlement before Janu-  
17       ary 1, 2013, expires at the end of the 15-year  
18       period beginning on the date of such child’s  
19       eighteenth birthday; or

20                      “(B) in the case of a child who first be-  
21       comes entitled to such entitlement on or after  
22       January 1, 2013, shall not expire.”.

1 **SEC. 112. MONTHLY STIPEND FOR CERTAIN MEMBERS OF**  
2 **THE RESERVE COMPONENTS OF THE ARMED**  
3 **FORCES RECEIVING POST-9/11 EDUCATIONAL**  
4 **ASSISTANCE.**

5 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 3313 is further amended  
6 by adding at the end the following new subsection:

7 “(j) DETERMINATION OF MONTHLY STIPENDS DUR-  
8 ING CERTAIN ACTIVE DUTY SERVICE.—

9 “(1) PRO RATA BASIS.—In any month in which  
10 an individual described in paragraph (2) is per-  
11 forming active duty service described in section  
12 3301(1)(B) of this title, the Secretary shall deter-  
13 mine the amount of monthly stipends payable under  
14 this section for such month on a pro rata basis for  
15 the period of such month in which the covered indi-  
16 vidual is not performing such active duty service.

17 “(2) INDIVIDUAL DESCRIBED.—An individual  
18 described in this paragraph is an individual who is—

19 “(A) a member of the reserve components  
20 of the Armed Forces; and

21 “(B) pursuing a program of education  
22 using educational assistance under this chap-  
23 ter.”.

24 (b) APPLICATION.—The amendment made by sub-  
25 section (a) shall apply with respect to a quarter, semester,

1 or term, as applicable, commencing on or after August 1,  
2 2018.

3 **SEC. 113. IMPROVEMENT OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY**  
4 **OF THE VETERANS BENEFITS ADMINISTRA-**  
5 **TION OF THE DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS**  
6 **AFFAIRS.**

7 (a) PROCESSING OF CERTAIN EDUCATIONAL ASSIST-  
8 ANCE CLAIMS.—The Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall,  
9 to the maximum extent possible, make such changes and  
10 improvements to the information technology system of the  
11 Veterans Benefits Administration of the Department of  
12 Veterans Affairs to ensure that—

13 (1) to the maximum extent possible, all original  
14 and supplemental claims for educational assistance  
15 under chapter 33 of title 38, United States Code,  
16 are adjudicated electronically; and

17 (2) rules-based processing is used to make deci-  
18 sions with respect to such claims with little human  
19 intervention.

20 (b) IMPLEMENTATION PLAN.—Not later than 180  
21 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Sec-  
22 retary of Veterans Affairs shall submit to Congress a plan  
23 to implement the changes and improvements described in  
24 subsection (a).

1 (c) REPORT.—Not later than one year after the date  
2 of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Veterans  
3 Affairs shall submit to Congress a report on the implemen-  
4 tation of the changes and improvements described in sub-  
5 section (a).

6 (d) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is  
7 authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary of Veterans  
8 Affairs \$30,000,000 to carry out this section during fiscal  
9 years 2018 and 2019.

10 **SEC. 114. DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS HIGH**  
11 **TECHNOLOGY PILOT PROGRAM.**

12 (a) PILOT PROGRAM.—The Secretary of Veterans Af-  
13 fairs shall carry out a pilot program under which the Sec-  
14 retary shall provide eligible veterans with the opportunity  
15 to enroll in high technology programs of education.

16 (b) ELIGIBILITY.—For purposes of the pilot program  
17 under this section, an eligible veteran is a veteran who  
18 is entitled to educational assistance under chapter 30, 32,  
19 33, 34, or 35 of title 38, United States Code, or chapter  
20 1606 or 1607 of title 10, United States Code.

21 (c) CONTRACTS.—

22 (1) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of carrying out  
23 subsection (a), by not later than 180 days after Au-  
24 gust 1, 2018, the Secretary shall seek to enter into  
25 contracts with any number of qualified providers of

1 high technology programs of education for the provi-  
2 sion of such programs to eligible veterans under the  
3 pilot program.

4 (2) PAYMENT OF CONTRACTORS.—A contract  
5 under this subsection shall provide that the Sec-  
6 retary shall pay to a provider—

7 (A) upon the enrollment of an eligible vet-  
8 eran in the program, 25 percent of the cost of  
9 the tuition and other fees for the program of  
10 education for the veteran;

11 (B) upon the completion of the program by  
12 the veteran, 25 percent of such cost; and

13 (C) upon the employment of the veteran in  
14 the field of study of the program following com-  
15 pletion of the program, 50 percent of such cost.

16 (3) QUALIFIED PROVIDERS.—For purposes of  
17 the pilot program, a provider of a high technology  
18 program of education is qualified if—

19 (A) the provider has been operational for  
20 at least two years;

21 (B) the provider has successfully provided  
22 the high technology program for at least one  
23 year; and

1 (C) the provider meets the approval cri-  
2 teria developed by the Secretary under para-  
3 graph (4).

4 (4) APPROVAL CRITERIA.—The Secretary shall  
5 develop criteria for approving providers for purposes  
6 of the pilot program. In developing such criteria, the  
7 Secretary may consult with State approving agen-  
8 cies. Such criteria is not required to meet the re-  
9 quirements of section 3672 of title 38, United States  
10 Code.

11 (5) TUITION REIMBURSEMENT.—In entering  
12 into contracts to carry out the pilot program, the  
13 Secretary shall give preference to a qualified pro-  
14 vider that offers tuition reimbursement for any stu-  
15 dent who—

16 (A) completes a program of education of-  
17 fered by the provider; and

18 (B) does not find full-time meaningful em-  
19 ployment in the field of study of the program  
20 within the 180-day period beginning on the date  
21 the student completes the program.

22 (d) HOUSING STIPEND.—The Secretary shall pay to  
23 each eligible veteran who is enrolled in a high technology  
24 program of education under the pilot program on a full-

1 time basis a monthly housing stipend equal to the prod-  
2 uct—

3 (1) of—

4 (A) in the case of a veteran pursuing resi-  
5 dent training, the monthly amount of the basic  
6 allowance for housing payable under section  
7 403 of title 37, United States Code, for a mem-  
8 ber with dependents in pay grade E-5 residing  
9 in the military housing area that encompasses  
10 all or the majority portion of the ZIP code area  
11 in which is located the institution at which the  
12 individual is enrolled; or

13 (B) in the case of a veteran pursuing a  
14 program of education through distance learn-  
15 ing, a monthly amount equal to 50 percent of  
16 the amount payable under subparagraph (A),  
17 multiplied by

18 (2) the lesser of—

19 (A) 1.0; or

20 (B) the number of course hours borne by  
21 the individual in pursuit of the program of edu-  
22 cation involved, divided by the minimum num-  
23 ber of course hours required for full-time pur-  
24 suit of such program of education, rounded to  
25 the nearest multiple of 10.



1 (e) HIGH TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM OF EDUCATION  
2 DEFINED.—In this section, the term “high technology  
3 program of education” means a program of education  
4 that—

5 (1) is offered by an entity other than an institu-  
6 tion of higher learning;

7 (2) does not lead to a degree; and

8 (3) provides instruction in computer program-  
9 ming, computer software, media application, data  
10 processing, or information sciences.

11 (f) REPORTS.—

12 (1) SECRETARY OF VETERANS AFFAIRS.—Not  
13 later than one year after the date of the enactment  
14 of this Act, and annually thereafter, the Secretary  
15 shall submit to Congress a report on the pilot pro-  
16 gram under this section.

17 (2) COMPTROLLER GENERAL.—

18 (A) INTERIM REPORT.—Not later than  
19 three years after the date on which the Sec-  
20 retary first enters into a contract under this  
21 section, the Comptroller General of the United  
22 States shall submit to Congress a report con-  
23 taining the results of the interim assessment of  
24 the Comptroller General. Such report shall in-  
25 clude the recommendations of the Comptroller

1           General for improving the pilot program and an  
2           assessment of each of the following:

3                   (i) The technology experience of the  
4                   directors and instructors of the providers  
5                   of high technology programs of education  
6                   under the pilot program.

7                   (ii) Whether the providers cooperated  
8                   with the technology industry to create the  
9                   curriculum for the program of education.

10                   (iii) Whether the providers use an  
11                   open source curriculum for the program of  
12                   education.

13                   (iv) The admittance rate into the pilot  
14                   program.

15                   (v) The job placement rate for vet-  
16                   erans who completed a program of edu-  
17                   cation under the pilot program in the field  
18                   of study of the program.

19                   (vi) The average salary of veterans  
20                   who completed a program of education  
21                   under the pilot program and were subse-  
22                   quently employed.

23                   (vii) The average age of veterans who  
24                   participated in the pilot program.

1 (B) FINAL REPORT.—Not later than five  
2 years after the date on which the Secretary first  
3 enters into a contract under this section, the  
4 Comptroller General shall submit to Congress a  
5 final report on the pilot program. Such report  
6 shall include the recommendation of the Comp-  
7 troller General with respect to whether the pro-  
8 gram should be extended and an assessment of  
9 each of the following:

10 (i) Each item described in clauses (i)  
11 through (vii) of subparagraph (A).

12 (ii) The percentage of veterans who  
13 completed a program of education under  
14 the pilot program who were subsequently  
15 employed for a period of six months or  
16 longer in a field of study of the program.

17 (iii) The percentage of veterans who  
18 completed a program of education under  
19 the pilot program who were subsequently  
20 employed for a period of less than six  
21 months in a field of study of the program.

22 (g) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—For each  
23 fiscal year during which the Secretary carries out a pilot  
24 program under this section, \$15,000,000 shall be made  
25 available for such purpose from funds appropriated to, or

1 otherwise made available to, the Department for the pay-  
2 ment of readjustment benefits.

3 (h) **TERMINATION.**—The authority to carry out a  
4 pilot program under this section shall terminate on the  
5 date that is five years after the date on which the Sec-  
6 retary first enters into a contract under this section.

## 7 **TITLE II—OTHER EDUCATIONAL** 8 **ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS**

### 9 **SEC. 201. WORK-STUDY ALLOWANCE.**

10 Section 3485(a)(4) is amended by striking “the pe-  
11 riod beginning on June 30, 2017, and ending on June 30,  
12 2022,” each place it appears and inserting “any time on  
13 or after June 30, 2017,”.

### 14 **SEC. 202. DURATION OF EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE UNDER** 15 **SURVIVORS’ AND DEPENDENTS’ EDU-** 16 **CATIONAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM.**

17 Section 3511(a)(1) is amended—

18 (1) by striking “chapter for” and all that fol-  
19 lows through the period and inserting “chapter—”;  
20 and

21 (2) by adding at the end the following new sub-  
22 paragraphs:

23 “(A) in the case of a person who first enrolls  
24 in a program of education using such entitlement be-  
25 fore August 1, 2018, for an aggregate period not in

1 excess of 45 months (or to the equivalent thereof in  
2 part-time training); or

3 “(B) in the case of a person who first enrolls  
4 in a program of education using such entitlement on  
5 or after August 1, 2018, for an aggregate period not  
6 in excess of 36 months (or to the equivalent thereof  
7 in part-time training).”.

8 **SEC. 203. OLIN E. TEAGUE INCREASE IN AMOUNTS OF EDU-**  
9 **CATIONAL ASSISTANCE PAYABLE UNDER**  
10 **SURVIVORS’ AND DEPENDENTS’ EDU-**  
11 **CATIONAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM.**

12 (a) INCREASE.—Section 3532 is amended—

13 (1) in subsection (a)—

14 (A) in paragraph (1)—

15 (i) by striking “\$788” and inserting  
16 “\$1,224”;

17 (ii) by striking “\$592” and inserting  
18 “\$967”; and

19 (iii) by striking “\$394” and inserting  
20 “\$710”; and

21 (B) in paragraph (2)(B), by striking  
22 “\$788” and inserting “\$1,224”; and

23 (2) in subsection (b), by striking “\$788” and  
24 inserting “\$1,224”.

1 (b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by  
2 subsection (a) shall apply with respect to a month that  
3 begins on or after October 1, 2018.

4 **TITLE III—ADMINISTRATION OF**  
5 **EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE**  
6 **PROGRAMS**

7 **SEC. 301. STATE APPROVING AGENCY FUNDING.**

8 (a) INCREASE.—Section 3674(a) of title 38, United  
9 States Code, is amended—

10 (1) in paragraph (2)(A), by striking “out of  
11 amounts available for the payment of readjustment  
12 benefits” and inserting “out of amounts in the De-  
13 partment of Veterans Affairs readjustment benefits  
14 account and amounts appropriated to the Sec-  
15 retary”;

16 (2) by redesignating paragraph (4) as para-  
17 graph (5);

18 (3) by inserting after paragraph (3) the fol-  
19 lowing new paragraph (4):

20 “(4) In addition to amounts made available under  
21 paragraph (5), there is authorized to be appropriated to  
22 carry out this section \$3,000,000 for fiscal year 2019 and  
23 each subsequent fiscal year.”; and

24 (4) in paragraph (5), as so redesignated—

1 (A) by striking “The total” and inserting  
2 “(A) The total”;

3 (B) by striking “for any fiscal year shall  
4 be \$19,000,000” and inserting “for fiscal year  
5 2018 shall be \$21,000,000 and for fiscal year  
6 2019 and thereafter shall be \$23,000,000”; and

7 (C) by adding at the end the following new  
8 subparagraph:

9 “(B) Beginning in fiscal year 2019, whenever there  
10 is an increase in benefit amounts payable under title II  
11 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 401 et seq.) as a  
12 result of a determination made under section 215(i) of  
13 such Act (42 U.S.C. 415(i)), the Secretary shall, effective  
14 on the date of such increase in benefit amounts, increase  
15 the amount in effect under subparagraph (A), as in effect  
16 immediately prior to the date of such increase in benefit  
17 amounts payable under title II of the Social Security Act,  
18 by the same percentage as the percentage by which such  
19 benefit amounts are increased.”.

1 **SEC. 302. AUTHORIZATION FOR USE OF POST-9/11 EDU-**  
2 **CATIONAL ASSISTANCE TO PURSUE INDE-**  
3 **PENDENT STUDY PROGRAMS AT CERTAIN**  
4 **EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS THAT ARE NOT**  
5 **INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING.**

6 Paragraph (4) of section 3680A(a) is amended to  
7 read as follows:

8 “(4) any independent study program except an  
9 independent study program (including such a pro-  
10 gram taken over open circuit television) that—

11 “(A) is accredited by a nationally recog-  
12 nized accrediting agency; and

13 “(B) leads—

14 “(i) to a standard college degree;

15 “(ii) to a certificate that reflects edu-  
16 cational attainment offered by an institu-  
17 tion of higher learning; or

18 “(iii) to a certificate that reflects com-  
19 pletion of a course of study offered by—

20 “(I) an area career and technical  
21 education school (as defined in sub-  
22 paragraphs (C) and (D) of section  
23 3(3) of the Carl D. Perkins Career  
24 and Technical Education Act of 2006  
25 (20 U.S.C. 2302(3))) that provides



1 education at the postsecondary level;  
2 or  
3 “(II) a postsecondary vocational  
4 institution (as defined in section  
5 102(c) of the Higher Education Act of  
6 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1002(c))) that pro-  
7 vides education at the postsecondary  
8 level.”.

9 **SEC. 303. PROVISION OF INFORMATION ON PRIORITY EN-**  
10 **ROLLMENT FOR VETERANS IN CERTAIN**  
11 **COURSES OF EDUCATION.**

12 Section 3698(c)(1)(C) is amended—

13 (1) in clause (ix), by striking “and” at the end;

14 (2) in clause (x), by striking the period and in-  
15 serting “; and”; and

16 (3) by adding at the end the following new  
17 clause:

18 “(xi) information on whether the institu-  
19 tion administers a priority enrollment system  
20 that allows certain student veterans to enroll in  
21 courses earlier than other students.”.

1 **SEC. 304. LIMITATION ON USE OF REPORTING FEES PAY-**  
2 **ABLE TO EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS AND**  
3 **SPONSORS OF PROGRAMS OF APPRENTICE-**  
4 **SHIP.**

5 (a) IN GENERAL.—Subsection (c) of section 3684 is  
6 amended to read as follows:

7 “(c)(1) The Secretary may pay to any educational in-  
8 stitution, or to the sponsor of a program of apprenticeship,  
9 furnishing education or training under either this chapter  
10 or chapter 31, 34, or 35 of this title, a reporting fee which  
11 will be in lieu of any other compensation or reimbursement  
12 for reports or certifications which such educational institu-  
13 tion or sponsor of a program of apprenticeship is required  
14 to submit to the Secretary by law or regulation.

15 “(2) Such reporting fee shall be computed for each  
16 calendar year by multiplying \$16 by the number of eligible  
17 veterans or eligible persons enrolled under this chapter or  
18 chapter 31, 34, or 35 of this title. The reporting fee shall  
19 be paid to such educational institution or sponsor of a pro-  
20 gram of apprenticeship as soon as feasible after the end  
21 of the calendar year for which it is applicable.

22 “(3) No reporting fee payable to an educational insti-  
23 tution under this subsection shall be subject to offset by  
24 the Secretary against any liability of such institution for  
25 any overpayment for which such institution may be admin-  
26 istratively determined to be liable under section 3685 of

1 this title unless such liability is not contested by such in-  
2 stitution or has been upheld by a final decree of a court  
3 of appropriate jurisdiction.

4 “(4) Any reporting fee paid to an educational institu-  
5 tion or sponsor of a program of apprenticeship after the  
6 date of the enactment of the Post-9/11 Veterans Edu-  
7 cational Assistance Improvements Act of 2011 (Public  
8 Law 111–377)—

9 “(A) shall be utilized by such institution or  
10 sponsor solely for the making of certifications re-  
11 quired under this chapter or chapter 31, 34, or 35  
12 of this title or for otherwise supporting programs for  
13 veterans; and

14 “(B) with respect to an institution that has 100  
15 or more enrollees described in paragraph (2) may  
16 not be used for or merged with amounts available  
17 for the general fund of the educational institution or  
18 sponsor of a program of apprenticeship.

19 “(5) The reporting fee payable under this subsection  
20 shall be paid from amounts appropriated for readjustment  
21 benefits.”.

22 (b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by  
23 subsection (a) shall take effect on August 1, 2018.

1 **SEC. 305. TRAINING FOR SCHOOL CERTIFYING OFFICIALS.**

2 (a) TRAINING REQUIREMENT.—The Secretary of  
3 Veterans Affairs shall, in consultation with the State ap-  
4 proving agencies, set forth requirements relating to train-  
5 ing for school certifying officials employed by covered edu-  
6 cational institutions offering courses of education ap-  
7 proved under chapter 36 of title 38, United States Code.  
8 If a covered educational institution does not ensure that  
9 a school certifying official employed by the educational in-  
10 stitution meets such requirements, the Secretary may dis-  
11 approve any course of education offered by such edu-  
12 cational institution.

13 (b) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

14 (1) The term “covered educational institution”  
15 means an educational institution that has enrolled  
16 20 or more individuals using educational assistance  
17 under title 38, United States Code.

18 (2) The term “school certifying official” means  
19 an employee of an educational institution with pri-  
20 mary responsibility for certifying veteran enrollment  
21 at the educational institution.

22 (3) The term “State approving agency” means  
23 a department or agency of a State designated under  
24 section 3671 of title 38, United States Code.

25 (c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—This section shall take effect  
26 on August 1, 2018.

1 **SEC. 306. EXTENSION OF AUTHORITY FOR ADVISORY COM-**  
2 **MITTEE ON EDUCATION.**

3 Section 3692 is amended by striking “December 31,  
4 2017” and inserting “December 31, 2022”.

5 **SEC. 307. DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS PROVISION**  
6 **OF ON-CAMPUS EDUCATIONAL AND VOCA-**  
7 **TIONAL COUNSELING FOR VETERANS.**

8 (a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 36 is amended by insert-  
9 ing after section 3697A the following new section:

10 **“§ 3697B. On-campus educational and vocational**  
11 **counseling**

12 “(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall provide edu-  
13 cational and vocational counseling services for individuals  
14 described in section 3697A(b) of this title at locations on  
15 the campuses of institutions of higher learning selected by  
16 the Secretary. Such counseling services shall be provided  
17 by employees of the Department who provide such services  
18 under section 3697A of this title.

19 “(b) SELECTION OF LOCATIONS.—(1) To be selected  
20 by the Secretary under this section, an institution of high-  
21 er learning shall provide an appropriate space on the cam-  
22 pus of the institution where counseling services can be pro-  
23 vided under this section.

24 “(2) In selecting locations for the provision of coun-  
25 seling services under this section, the Secretary shall seek

1 to select locations where the maximum number of veterans  
2 would have access to such services.

3 “(c) ANNUAL REPORT.—Not later than 180 days  
4 after the date of the enactment of this section, and each  
5 year thereafter, the Secretary shall submit to Congress a  
6 report on the counseling services provided under this sec-  
7 tion. Such report shall include, for the year covered by  
8 the report—

9 “(1) the average ratio of counselors providing  
10 such services to individuals who received such serv-  
11 ices at each location where such services were pro-  
12 vided;

13 “(2) a description of such services provided;

14 “(3) the recommendations of the Secretary for  
15 improving the provision of such services; and

16 “(4) any other matters the Secretary deter-  
17 mines appropriate.”.

18 (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections  
19 at the beginning of such chapter is amended by inserting  
20 after the item relating to section 3697A the following new  
21 item:

“3697B. On-campus educational and vocational counseling.”.

1 **SEC. 308. PROVISION OF INFORMATION REGARDING VET-**  
2 **ERAN ENTITLEMENT TO EDUCATIONAL AS-**  
3 **SISTANCE.**

4 (a) IN GENERAL.—Subchapter II of chapter 36 is  
5 further amended by adding at the end the following new  
6 section:

7 **“§ 3699A. Provision of certain information to edu-**  
8 **catinal institutions**

9 “(a) IN GENERAL.—For each veteran or other indi-  
10 vidual pursuing a course of education that has been ap-  
11 proved under this chapter using educational assistance to  
12 which the veteran or other individual is entitled under  
13 chapter 30, 32, 33, or 35 of this title, the Secretary shall  
14 make available to the educational institution offering the  
15 course information about the amount of such educational  
16 assistance to which the veteran or other individual is enti-  
17 tled. Such information shall be provided to such edu-  
18 catinal institution through a secure information tech-  
19 nology system accessible by the educational institution and  
20 shall be regularly updated to reflect any amounts used by  
21 the veteran or other individual.

22 “(b) ELECTION.—A veteran or other individual pur-  
23 suing a course of education described in subsection (a)  
24 may elect not to provide the information described in such  
25 subsection to an educational institution in a manner pre-  
26 scribed by the Secretary.”

1 (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections  
2 at the beginning of such chapter is further amended by  
3 inserting after the item relating to section 3699 the fol-  
4 lowing new item:

“3699A. Provision of certain information to educational institutions.”.

5 (c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—Section 3699A of title 38,  
6 United States Code, as added by this section, shall take  
7 effect on August 1, 2018.

8 **SEC. 309. TREATMENT, FOR PURPOSES OF EDUCATIONAL**  
9 **ASSISTANCE ADMINISTERED BY THE SEC-**  
10 **RETARY OF VETERANS AFFAIRS, OF EDU-**  
11 **CATIONAL COURSES THAT BEGIN SEVEN OR**  
12 **FEWER DAYS AFTER THE FIRST DAY OF AN**  
13 **ACADEMIC TERM.**

14 Section 3684(a) is amended—

15 (1) by redesignating paragraph (4) as para-  
16 graph (5); and

17 (2) by inserting after paragraph (3) the fol-  
18 lowing new paragraph (4):

19 “(4) A course offered by an educational institution  
20 that does not begin on the first day of an academic term,  
21 but does begin seven or fewer days after such day, shall  
22 be treated as beginning on such day for purposes of this  
23 section.”.



1                   **TITLE IV—RESERVE**  
2                   **COMPONENT BENEFITS**

3   **SEC. 401. ELIGIBILITY OF RESERVE COMPONENT MEMBERS**  
4                   **FOR POST-9/11 EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE.**

5           (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 3301(1)(B) is amended  
6 by striking “or 12304” and inserting “12304, 12304a, or  
7 12304b”.

8           (b) RETROACTIVE APPLICATION.—The amendment  
9 made by subsection (a) shall apply with respect to service  
10 in the Armed Forces occurring on or after the date of the  
11 enactment of the Post-9/11 Veterans Educational Assist-  
12 ance Act of 2008 (Public Law 110–252).

13           (c) APPLICATION WITH RESPECT TO USE OF ENTI-  
14 TLEMENT.—An individual who is entitled to educational  
15 assistance by reason of the amendment made by sub-  
16 section (a) may use such entitlement to pursue a course  
17 of education beginning on or after August 1, 2018.

18   **SEC. 402. TIME LIMITATION FOR TRAINING AND REHABILI-**  
19                   **TATION FOR VETERANS WITH SERVICE-CON-**  
20                   **NECTED DISABILITIES.**

21           Section 3103(f) is amended by striking “or 12304”  
22 and inserting “12304, 12304a, or 12304b”.

1           **TITLE V—OTHER MATTERS**

2   **SEC. 501. REPEAL INAPPLICABILITY OF MODIFICATION OF**  
3                   **BASIC ALLOWANCE FOR HOUSING TO BENE-**  
4                   **FITS UNDER LAWS ADMINISTERED BY SEC-**  
5                   **RETARY OF VETERANS AFFAIRS.**

6           (a) **REPEAL.**—Subsection (b) of section 604 of the  
7 Carl Levin and Howard P. “Buck” McKeon National De-  
8 fense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2015 (Public Law  
9 113-291; 37 U.S.C. 403 note) is repealed.

10          (b) **EFFECTIVE DATE.**—The amendment made by  
11 subsection (a) shall take effect on January 1, 2018, and  
12 shall apply with respect to individuals who first use their  
13 entitlement to educational assistance under chapter 33 of  
14 title 38, United States Code, on or after such date.

