

**AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE  
TO H.R. 3874  
OFFERED BY MR. VAN ORDEN OF WISCONSIN**

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

**1 SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “Veterans Education  
3 Assistance Improvement Act”.

**4 SEC. 2. PAYMENT OF FULL MONTHLY HOUSING STIPEND  
5 FOR VETERANS ENROLLED IN FINAL SEMES-  
6 TER USING EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE  
7 UNDER POST-9/11 EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE  
8 PROGRAM.**

9 (a) HOUSING ALLOWANCE.—Section 3680(a)(3) of  
10 title 38, United States Code, is amended—

11 (1) by redesignating subparagraphs (A) and  
12 (B) as clauses (i) and (ii), respectively (and by re-  
13 designating each subordinate provision and the mar-  
14 gins thereof accordingly);

15 (2) by striking “Notwithstanding paragraph  
16 (1)” and inserting “(A) Notwithstanding paragraph  
17 (1)”;

1 (3) by striking “, including a monthly housing  
2 stipend described in section 3313(c) of this title,”;  
3 and

4 (4) by adding at the end the following new sub-  
5 paragraph (B):

6 “(B) For purposes of providing a monthly housing  
7 stipend described in section 3313(c) to an eligible veteran  
8 or eligible person for whom the Secretary is providing edu-  
9 cational assistance under chapter 33 of this title during  
10 a period that is the last semester, term, or academic period  
11 pursuant to subparagraph (A), the Secretary shall treat  
12 the veteran or person as pursuing a program of education  
13 on a full-time basis.”.

14 (b) APPLICATION.—The amendments made by sub-  
15 section (a) shall take effect on the date of the enactment  
16 of this Act and apply with respect to a quarter, semester,  
17 or term, as applicable, commencing on or after August 1,  
18 2023.

19 **SEC. 3. NOTICE OF DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS**  
20 **RULE MAKINGS AFFECTING THE EDU-**  
21 **CATIONAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS OF THE**  
22 **DEPARTMENT.**

23 (a) IN GENERAL.—Subchapter III of chapter 36 of  
24 title 38, United States Code, is amended by adding at the  
25 end the following new section:

1 **“§ 3699C. Notice of rule makings relating to edu-**  
2 **cational assistance programs**

3           “In the case of a rule making by the Secretary that  
4 is not subject to notice requirements under section  
5 553(b)(A) of title 5, and that relates to any educational  
6 assistance program of the Department, the Secretary may  
7 not implement the rule before the date that is 120 days  
8 after the date on which the Secretary makes available to  
9 students, educational institutions, and the Committees on  
10 Veterans’ Affairs of the Senate and House of Representa-  
11 tives notice of, and justification for, the rule making.”.

12           (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections  
13 at the beginning of such chapter is amended by inserting  
14 after the item relating to section 3699B the following new  
15 item:

          “3699C. Notice of rule makings relating to educational assistance programs.”.

16           (c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—Section 3699C of title 38,  
17 United States Code, as added by subsection (a), shall take  
18 effect on the date of the enactment of this Act and apply  
19 with respect to a rule making on or after August 1, 2024.

20 **SEC. 4. NOTICE TO EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS OF RISK-**  
21 **BASED SURVEYS.**

22           Section 3673A(d) of title 38, United States Code, is  
23 amended by striking “one business day” and inserting  
24 “two business days”.

1 **SEC. 5. MULTI-YEAR WAIVERS FOR EDUCATIONAL INSTITU-**  
2 **TIONS.**

3 (a) ACCREDITED COURSES.—Section 3675(b) of title  
4 38, United States Code, is amended—

5 (1) by redesignating paragraphs (1) through  
6 (4) as subparagraphs (A) through (D);

7 (2) by inserting “(1)” before “As a condition”;  
8 and

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

11 “(2) The Secretary may waive the requirement  
12 under paragraph (1)(D) for an educational institu-  
13 tion for multiple years.”.

14 (b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section  
15 3672(b)(2)(A) is amended by inserting “(A) and (B)”  
16 after “3675(b)(1)”.

17 **SEC. 6. REQUIREMENT THAT EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS**  
18 **APPROVED FOR PURPOSES OF DEPARTMENT**  
19 **OF VETERANS AFFAIRS EDUCATIONAL AS-**  
20 **SISTANCE PROGRAMS PROVIDE DIGITAL OF-**  
21 **FICIAL TRANSCRIPTS.**

22 (a) SHORT TITLE.—This section may be cited as the  
23 “Transcript Assurance for Heroes Act”.

24 (b) REQUIREMENT.—Section 3675(b) of title 38,  
25 United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the  
26 following new paragraph:

1           “(5) The educational institution makes avail-  
2           able to each eligible person or veteran a copy of the  
3           person or veteran’s official transcript in a digital  
4           format.”.

5           (c) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

6           (1) APPROVAL OF COURSES.—Section  
7           3672(b)(2)(A) of such title is amended by striking  
8           “(b)(1) and (b)(2)” and inserting “paragraphs (1),  
9           (2), and (5) of section 3675(b)”.

10          (2) APPROVAL OF NONACCREDITED COURSES.—

11          Section 3676(c) of such title is amended—

12                 (A) by redesignating paragraph (16) as  
13                 paragraph (17); and

14                 (B) by inserting after paragraph (15) the  
15                 following new paragraph (16):

16                 “(16) In the case of a course that leads to a  
17                 standard college degree, the educational institution  
18                 satisfies the requirements of section 3675(b)(5) of  
19                 this title.”.

20          (d) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by  
21          this section shall take effect one year after the date of  
22          the enactment of this Act.

1 **SEC. 7. RETROACTIVE EFFECTIVE DATE OF LAW REGARD-**  
2 **ING CHARGE TO ENTITLEMENT TO EDU-**  
3 **CATIONAL ASSISTANCE FOR INDIVIDUALS**  
4 **WHO DO NOT TRANSFER CREDITS FROM CER-**  
5 **TAIN CLOSED OR DISAPPROVED PROGRAMS**  
6 **OF EDUCATION.**

7 Section 3699(e)(2) of title 38, United States Code,  
8 is amended by striking subparagraph (C) and inserting  
9 the following new subparagraph (C):

10 “(C) This paragraph, including clauses (ii) and (iii)  
11 of subparagraph (A), shall apply with respect to the clo-  
12 sure or discontinuation of a course or program of edu-  
13 cation, as described in subsection (b)(1), that occurs dur-  
14 ing the period beginning on August 1, 2021, and ending  
15 on September 30, 2023.”.

