



STATEMENT OF

STUDENT VETERANS OF AMERICA

BEFORE THE

SUBCOMMITTEE ON HEALTH

OF THE

COMMITTEE ON VETERANS' AFFAIRS

U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

HEARING ON THE TOPIC OF:

PENDING LEGISLATION

June 12, 2025

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Chairwoman Miller-Meeks, Ranking Member Brownley, and Members of the Subcommittee: Thank you for inviting Student Veterans of America (SVA) to submit a statement for the record on the legislation pending before you today.

With a mission focused on empowering student veterans, SVA is committed to providing an educational experience that goes beyond the classroom. Through a dedicated and expansive network of on-campus chapters across the country, SVA aims to inspire yesterday's warriors by connecting student veterans with a community of like-minded chapter leaders. Every day, these passionate leaders work to provide the necessary resources, network support, and advocacy to ensure student veterans, military-connected students, their families and survivors can effectively connect, expand their skills, and ultimately achieve their greatest potential.

SVA thanks the Subcommittee for considering several pieces of legislation that would impact student veterans, military-connected students, their families, caregivers, and survivors in higher education.

H.R. 1404, the CHAMPVA Children's Care Protection Act of 2025

SVA supports H.R. 1404, *the CHAMPVA Children's Care Protection Act of 2025*, which would extend the age of eligibility for the Civilian Health and Medical Program of the Department of Veterans Affairs (CHAMPVA) to the age of 26 for young adult children of veterans who are permanently and totally disabled, have died of a service-connected disability, or lost their life on active duty and did not qualify for the Department of Defense's TRICARE program.

SVA has always been committed to advancing policies that support student veterans, military-connected students, their families, survivors, and caregivers. No parent or child should have to face the burden of having to worry about their health care coverage, especially an adult child whose parents are veterans and disabled or who have died from a service-connected disability. Currently, CHAMPVA coverage for a beneficiary ends at age 18, unless they are enrolled as a full-time student, in which case eligibility is extended until age 23 unless they marry. This legislation would ensure that the health coverage of CHAMPVA beneficiaries is more aligned with most employer-sponsored health care plans and have parity with those in TRICARE¹ and make sure military families get continuous care when it matters most, without losing coverage.

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The continued success of veterans in higher education in the Post-9/11 era is no mistake or coincidence. In our Nation's history, educated veterans have always been the best of a generation and the key to solving our most complex challenges. Today's student veterans carry this legacy forward.

We thank the Chairwoman, Ranking Member, and the Subcommittee Members for your time, attention, and devotion to the cause of veterans, military-connected students, their families, caregivers and survivors.

¹ TRICARE, TRICARE Young Adult Plans, <https://tricare.mil/Plans/HealthPlans/TYA> (last visited June 3, 2025).