

**[DISCUSSION DRAFT]**

114<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESS  
2<sup>D</sup> SESSION

**H. R.** \_\_\_\_\_

To amend title 38, United States Code, to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to disapprove, for purposes of the educational assistance programs of the Department of Veterans Affairs, courses of education offered by institutions of higher learning determined by the Inspector General to be guilty of deceptive or misleading practices, and for other purposes.

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IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. TAKANO introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on \_\_\_\_\_

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**A BILL**

To amend title 38, United States Code, to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to disapprove, for purposes of the educational assistance programs of the Department of Veterans Affairs, courses of education offered by institutions of higher learning determined by the Inspector General to be guilty of deceptive or misleading practices, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “GI Bill Oversight Act  
3 of 2016”.

4 **SEC. 2. DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS INSPECTOR**  
5 **GENERAL INVESTIGATION OF INSTITUTIONS**  
6 **OF HIGHER LEARNING UNDER INVESTIGA-**  
7 **TION FOR DECEPTIVE OR MISLEADING PRAC-**  
8 **TICES.**

9 (a) IN GENERAL.—Subchapter II of chapter 36 of  
10 title 38, United States Code, is amended by adding at the  
11 end the following new section:

12 **“§ 3699. Inspector General investigation of institu-**  
13 **tions of higher learning under investiga-**  
14 **tion**

15 “(a) INVESTIGATION REQUIRED.—The Inspector  
16 General of the Department shall conduct an investigation  
17 into any institution of higher learning that—

18 “(1) is the defendant in a class action lawsuit  
19 for deceptive or misleading practices;

20 “(2) is under investigation by any Federal or  
21 State agency for deceptive or misleading practices;  
22 or

23 “(3) has been found guilty by any Federal or  
24 State agency of deceptive or misleading practices.

25 “(b) NOTICE TO STUDENTS.—(1) Upon commencing  
26 an investigation under this section, the Inspector General

1 shall provide notice of the investigation and the reasons  
2 for such investigation to any individual who—

3 “(A) is enrolled in a course of education ap-  
4 proved under this chapter provided by the institution  
5 of higher learning under investigation; and

6 “(B) is entitled to educational assistance under  
7 the laws administered by the Secretary.

8 “(2) The Inspector General shall provide to any indi-  
9 vidual who receives notice under this subsection advice  
10 that the individual—

11 “(A) request a copy of the individual’s tran-  
12 script; and

13 “(B) seek counseling from an appropriate advi-  
14 sor about transferring any credits earned at the in-  
15 stitution of higher learning that is subject to inves-  
16 tigation to another institution of higher learning.

17 “(c) MONITORING OF ALLEGATIONS.—The Secretary  
18 shall monitor allegations of deceptive and misleading prac-  
19 tices made against institutions of higher learning offering  
20 courses of education approved for purposes of this chapter,  
21 including class action lawsuits and Federal and State in-  
22 vestigations. The Secretary shall include information  
23 about any such allegation on the GI Bill Comparison Tool,  
24 or any similar Internet website of the Department.”.

1 (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections  
2 at the beginning of such chapter is amended by adding  
3 at the end of the items relating to subchapter II the fol-  
4 lowing new item:

“3699. Inspector General investigation of institutions of higher learning under investigation.”.

5 **SEC. 3. DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS DIS-**  
6 **APPROVAL OF COURSES OF EDUCATION OF-**  
7 **FERED BY INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARN-**  
8 **ING ACCUSED OF DECEPTIVE OR MIS-**  
9 **LEADING PRACTICES.**

10 Section 3679 of title 38, United States Code, is  
11 amended by adding at the end the following new sub-  
12 section:

13 “(d)(1) The Secretary shall disapprove a course of  
14 education provided by an institution of higher learning if  
15 the Inspector General determines that the institution of  
16 higher learning is guilty of deceptive or misleading prac-  
17 tices pursuant to an investigation conducted under section  
18 3699 of this title.

19 “(2) An individual who is pursuing a course of edu-  
20 cation using the individual’s entitlement to educational as-  
21 sistance under the laws administered by the Secretary that  
22 is disapproved under this subsection shall be reimbursed  
23 for the amount of such entitlement, including tuition, fees,  
24 and housing stipend, as applicable, that would otherwise

1 have been used for the academic period during which the  
2 course is so disapproved.

3 “(3) The Secretary shall provide counseling services  
4 to individuals described in paragraph (2) to assist such  
5 individuals in transferring to another institution of higher  
6 learning.”.