

AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE
TO H.R. 4830
OFFERED BY MR. Bilirakis

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “Servicemembers Im-
3 proved Transition through Reforms for Ensuring Progress
4 Act” or the “SIT-REP Act”.

5 **SEC. 2. DISAPPROVAL FOR PURPOSES OF EDUCATIONAL**
6 **ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS OF DEPARTMENT OF**
7 **VETERANS AFFAIRS OF CERTAIN COURSES**
8 **OF EDUCATION THAT DO NOT PERMIT INDI-**
9 **VIDUALS TO ATTEND OR PARTICIPATE IN**
10 **COURSES PENDING PAYMENT.**

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

14 “(c)(1) Notwithstanding any other provision of this
15 chapter, beginning on August 1, 2018, a State approving
16 agency, or the Secretary when acting in the role of the
17 State approving agency, shall disapprove a course of edu-

1 cation provided by an educational institution unless the
2 educational institution has adopted the following policies:

3 “(A) A policy that permits any covered indi-
4 vidual to attend or participate in the course of edu-
5 cation during the period beginning on the date on
6 which the individual provides to the educational in-
7 stitution a certificate of eligibility for entitlement to
8 educational assistance under chapter 31 or 33 of
9 this title and ending on the earlier of the following
10 dates:

11 “(i) The date on which the Secretary pro-
12 vides payment for such course of education to
13 such institution.

14 “(ii) The date that is 90 days after the
15 date on which the individual provides to the
16 educational institution such certificate of eligi-
17 bility.

18 “(B) A policy that ensures that the educational
19 institution will not impose any penalty, including the
20 assessment of late fees, the denial of access to class-
21 es, libraries, or other institutional facilities, or the
22 requirement that a covered individual borrow addi-
23 tional funds, on any covered individual because of
24 the individual’s inability to meet his or her financial
25 obligations to the institution as a result of the de-

1 **“SEC. 302. AUTHORIZATION FOR USE OF EDUCATIONAL AS-**
2 **SISTANCE UNDER ANY OF THE EDUCATIONAL**
3 **ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS OF THE DEPART-**
4 **MENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS TO PURSUE**
5 **INDEPENDENT STUDY PROGRAMS AT CER-**
6 **TAIN EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS THAT ARE**
7 **NOT INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING.”.**

