

[DISCUSSION DRAFT]117TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION**H. R.** _____

To amend title 38, United States Code, to provide for extensions of the time limitations for use of entitlement under Department of Veterans Affairs educational assistance programs by reason of school closures due to emergency and other situations, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Ms. SHERRILL introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on _____

A BILL

To amend title 38, United States Code, to provide for extensions of the time limitations for use of entitlement under Department of Veterans Affairs educational assistance programs by reason of school closures due to emergency and other situations, 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. EXTENSION OF TIME LIMITATION FOR USE OF**
2 **ENTITLEMENT UNDER DEPARTMENT OF VET-**
3 **ERANS AFFAIRS EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE**
4 **PROGRAMS BY REASON OF SCHOOL CLO-**
5 **SURES DUE TO EMERGENCY AND OTHER SIT-**
6 **UATIONS.**

7 (a) MONTGOMERY GI BILL.—Section 3031 of title
8 38, United States Code, is amended—

9 (1) in subsection (a), by inserting “and sub-
10 section (i)” after “through (g)”; and

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

13 “(i)(1) In the case of an individual eligible for edu-
14 cational assistance under this chapter who is prevented
15 from pursuing the individual’s chosen program of edu-
16 cation before the expiration of the 10-year period for the
17 use of entitlement under this chapter otherwise applicable
18 under this section because of a covered reason, as deter-
19 mined by the Secretary, such 10-year period—

20 “(A) shall not run during the period the indi-
21 vidual is so prevented from pursuing such program;
22 and

23 “(B) shall again begin running on a date deter-
24 mined by the Secretary that is—

25 “(i) not earlier than the first day after the
26 individual is able to resume pursuit of a pro-

1 gram of education with educational assistance
2 under this chapter; and

3 “(ii) not later than 90 days after that day.

4 “(2) In this subsection, a covered reason is—

5 “(A) the temporary or permanent closure of an
6 educational institution by reason of an emergency
7 situation; or

8 “(B) another reason that prevents the indi-
9 vidual from pursuing the individual’s chosen pro-
10 gram of education, as determined by the Sec-
11 retary.”.

12 (b) POST-9/11 EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE.— Section
13 3321(b)(1) of such title is amended—

14 (1) by inserting “(A)” before “Subsections”;

15 (2) by striking “and (d)” and inserting “(d),
16 and (i)”;

17 (3) by adding at the end the following new sub-
18 paragraph:

19 “(B) Subsection (i) of section 3031 of this title
20 shall apply with respect to the running of the 15-
21 year period described in paragraphs (4)(A) and
22 (5)(A) of this subsection in the same manner as
23 such subsection applies under section 3031 with re-
24 spect to the running of the 10-year period described
25 in section 3031(a).”.