

**AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE
TO H.R. 8661
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 “Reforming Education
3 for Veterans Act”.

**4 SEC. 2. ABSENCE FROM CERTAIN EDUCATION DUE TO CER-
5 TAIN SERVICE.**

6 (a) OPTIONS.—Section 3691A of title 38, United
7 States Code, is amended by striking paragraph (1) of sub-
8 section (a) and inserting the following:

9 “(1) A covered member may, after receiving orders
10 to enter a period of covered service—

11 “(A) withdraw from covered education;

12 “(B) take a leave of absence from covered edu-
13 cation; or

14 “(C) subject to subsection (d), enter into an
15 agreement with the institution concerned to complete
16 a course of covered education to the satisfaction of
17 such institution concerned.”.

1 (b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Such subsection is
2 further amended, in paragraph (2)(A), by striking “or
3 takes a leave of absence” and inserting “, takes a leave
4 of absence, or enters into an agreement”.

5 (c) AGREEMENT.—Such section is further amended
6 by—

7 (1) redesignating subsection (d) as subsection
8 (e); and

9 (2) by inserting, after subsection (c), the fol-
10 lowing new subsection (d):

11 “(d) AGREEMENT WITH INSTITUTION CON-
12 CERNED.—A covered member may enter into an agree-
13 ment under subsection (a) only if the covered member has
14 completed at least half of a course of covered education.”.

15 (d) SECTION HEADING.—Such section is amended by
16 striking the heading and inserting “**Absence from cer-
17 tain education due to certain service**”.

18 (e) TABLE OF SECTIONS.—The table of sections at
19 the beginning of chapter 36 of such title is amended by
20 striking the item relating to section 3691A and inserting
21 the following new item:

“3691A. Absence from certain education due to certain service.”.

22 **SEC. 3. DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS COMPLIANCE**
23 **SURVEYS.**

24 Section 3693 of title 38, United States Code, is
25 amended—

1 (1) in subsection (a), by adding at the end the
2 following new paragraph:

3 “(3) In conducting annual compliance surveys under
4 this subsection, the Secretary shall ensure that an edu-
5 cational institution or training establishment with multiple
6 campuses is only required to complete one such survey if
7 one school certifying official certifies veteran enrollment
8 for all such campuses.”;

9 (2) in subsection (c)—

10 (A) by striking “not more than 10 busi-
11 ness days of notice”;

12 (B) by striking “this section.” and insert-
13 ing “this section—”; and

14 (C) by adding at the end the following new
15 paragraphs:

16 “(1) in the case of an educational institution or
17 training establishment with a time stamp database
18 collection feature, not more than 15 business days of
19 notice; and

20 “(2) in the case of any other educational insti-
21 tution or training establishment, not more than 10
22 business days of notice.”; and

23 (3) by striking subsection (d) and inserting the
24 following:

25 “(d) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

1 “(1) The terms ‘educational institution’ and
2 ‘training establishment’ have the meanings given
3 such terms in section 3452 of this title.

4 “(2) The term ‘school certifying official’ means
5 an employee of an educational institution with pri-
6 mary responsibility for certifying veteran enrollment
7 at the educational institution.”.

8 **SEC. 4. NOTIFICATION OF SCHOOL CERTIFYING OFFICIALS**
9 **OF HANDBOOK UPDATES.**

10 (a) **IN GENERAL.**—Not later than 14 business days
11 after updating the school certifying official handbook of
12 the Department of Veterans Affairs, the Secretary of Vet-
13 erans Affairs shall provide notice to all school certifying
14 officials of such update.

15 (b) **SCHOOL CERTIFYING OFFICIAL DEFINED.**—The
16 term “school certifying official” means an employee of an
17 educational institution with primary responsibility for cer-
18 tifying veteran enrollment at the educational institution.

