

[DISCUSSION DRAFT]116TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION**H. R.** _____

To amend title 38, United States Code, to provide for a requirement relating to the timing of the payment of educational assistance under the Post-9/11 Educational Assistance Program of the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

M____ introduced the following bill; which was referred to the
Committee on _____

A BILL

To amend title 38, United States Code, to provide for a requirement relating to the timing of the payment of educational assistance under the Post-9/11 Educational Assistance Program of the Department of Veterans Affairs, 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,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Forever GI Bill Class
5 Evaluation Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

2 Congress makes the following findings:

3 (1) The Department of Veterans Affairs pro-
4 vided \$10,800,000,000 in educational assistance
5 under the Post-9/11 Educational Assistance Pro-
6 gram benefits to almost 800,000 veterans during fis-
7 cal year 2014.

8 (2) According to the General Accountability Of-
9 fice's October 2015 report, the Department of Vet-
10 erans Affairs identified \$416,000,000 in overpay-
11 ments under such Program during fiscal year 2014,
12 affecting approximately one in four veteran bene-
13 ficiaries and about 6,000 schools.

14 (3) According to such report, "while veterans
15 using other VA education programs have to verify
16 their enrollment each month, VA generally does not
17 require those using the Post-9/11 GI Bill to do so.
18 By not requiring veterans to verify their enrollment
19 every month, which can cause significant time to
20 lapse between when veterans drop courses and when
21 this is reported, VA's process allows veterans to
22 incur thousands of dollars in overpayments and also
23 increases the program's costs associated with col-
24 lecting these debts."

1 **SEC. 3. TIMING OF PAYMENT OF EDUCATIONAL ASSIST-**
2 **ANCE UNDER POST-9/11 EDUCATIONAL AS-**
3 **SISTANCE PROGRAM OF DEPARTMENT OF**
4 **VETERANS AFFAIRS.**

5 (a) IN GENERAL.—Paragraph (1) of subsection (d)
6 of section 3313 of title 38, United States Code, is amend-
7 ed to read as follows:

8 “(1) QUARTER, SEMESTER, OR TERM PAY-
9 MENTS.—

10 “(A) IN GENERAL.—Payment of the
11 amounts payable under subsection (c)(1)(A),
12 and of similar amounts payable under para-
13 graphs (2) through (7) of subsection (c), for
14 pursuit of a program of education—

15 “(i) shall be made for the entire quar-
16 ter, semester, or term, as applicable, of the
17 program of education; and

18 “(ii) may not be made prior to 14
19 days after the first day of the quarter, se-
20 mester, or term, as applicable, unless the
21 Secretary provides for a waiver of this sub-
22 paragraph.

23 “(B) EFFECT OF STUDENT WITH-
24 DRAWAL.—Payment shall not be made under
25 subparagraph (A) in the case of an individual
26 who withdraws from a program of education

1 during the first 14 days of the quarter, semes-
2 ter, or term, as applicable.”.

3 (b) **EFFECTIVE DATE.**—The amendments made by
4 subsection (a) shall apply with respect to a quarter, semes-
5 ter, or term that begins on or after the date that is 14
6 days after the date of the enactment of this Act.