

111TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1821

To amend chapter 31 of title 38, United States Code, to increase vocational rehabilitation and employment assistance, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 31, 2009

Mr. FILNER introduced the following bill; which was referred to the
Committee on Veterans' Affairs

A BILL

To amend chapter 31 of title 38, United States Code, to increase vocational rehabilitation and employment assistance, 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 “Equity for Injured Vet-
5 erans Act of 2009”.

6 **SEC. 2. INCREASE OF VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION AND**
7 **EMPLOYMENT BENEFITS.**

8 (a) PERIOD OF ELIGIBILITY.—Section 3103(a) of
9 title 38, United States Code, is amended by striking
10 “twelve-year” and inserting “fifteen-year”.

1 (b) INCREASED ALLOWANCE.—Section 3108 of title
2 38, United States Code, is amended—

3 (1) in subsection (a)(1), by inserting “or (j)”
4 after “subsection (f)”;

5 (2) in subsection (a)(2), by striking “two
6 months” and inserting “six months”; and

7 (3) by adding at the end the following new sub-
8 section:

9 “(j)(1) As part of a vocational rehabilitation program
10 under this chapter, a veteran who is eligible for and enti-
11 tled to rehabilitation under this chapter may elect to pur-
12 sue an approved program of education and receive assist-
13 ance under this chapter in monthly amounts described
14 under paragraph (2) to the extent that such veteran has
15 remaining eligibility for and entitlement to assistance
16 under this section, if the Secretary approves the edu-
17 cational, professional, or vocational objective chosen by
18 such veteran for such program.

19 “(2) The monthly amounts a veteran may receive
20 under paragraph (1)—

21 “(A) with respect to a veteran who is consid-
22 ered a covered individual for purposes of section
23 3311 of this title, are the amounts equal to the
24 monthly amounts the veteran is eligible to receive for
25 educational assistance under section 3313 of this

1 title (including the monthly stipend provided under
2 section 3313(c)(1)(B)); and

3 “(B) with respect to a veteran who is not con-
4 sidered a covered individual for purposes of section
5 3311, are the amounts equal to the monthly
6 amounts the Secretary determines would be payable
7 to such veteran if such veteran were eligible to re-
8 ceive educational assistance under section 3313 of
9 this title (including the monthly stipend provided
10 under section 3313(c)(1)(B)).

11 “(3) In the event that such veteran makes an election
12 under paragraph (1), the terms and conditions applicable
13 to the pursuit of a comparable program of education and
14 the payment of allowances and provision of assistance
15 under chapter 33 of this title for such a comparable pro-
16 gram shall be applied to the pursuit of the approved pro-
17 gram of education under this chapter.”.

18 (c) CHILD CARE; PRESIDENT’S BUDGET.—

19 (1) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 31 of title 38,
20 United States Code, is amended by adding at the
21 end the following new sections:

22 **“§ 3123. Child care assistance for single parents**

23 “(a) IN GENERAL.—Pursuant to regulations pre-
24 scribed by the Secretary to carry out this section, the Sec-

1 retary shall provide reimbursements for child care to a vet-
2 eran who is—

3 “(1) participating in a vocational rehabilitation
4 program under this chapter; and

5 “(2) the sole caretaker of a child.

6 “(b) AMOUNT AND DURATION.—The amount of the
7 reimbursement for child care under this section shall be
8 not more than \$2,000 per month for each month the vet-
9 eran is participating in a vocational rehabilitation program
10 under this chapter.

11 **“§ 3124. Information included in support of Presi-**
12 **dent’s budget**

13 “The Secretary shall include in documents submitted
14 to Congress by the Secretary in support of the President’s
15 budget for each fiscal year submitted under section 1105
16 of title 31, United States Code, the following:

17 “(1) For the calendar year preceding the sub-
18 mission—

19 “(A) the percentage of veterans receiving
20 assistance under this chapter who became em-
21 ployed; and

22 “(B) the percentage of veterans receiving
23 assistance under this chapter who achieved
24 independence in daily living.

1 “(2) Any changes made by the Secretary in
2 measuring or calculating the performance of the de-
3 partment under this chapter.”.

4 (2) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sec-
5 tions at the beginning of chapter 31 of title 38,
6 United States Code, is amended by adding at the
7 end the following:

“3123. Child care assistance for single parents.

“3124. Information included in support of President’s budget.”.

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