

114TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2465

To amend title 38, United States Code, to make certain improvements to the monthly housing stipend payable under the Post-9/11 Educational Assistance Program of the Department of Veterans Affairs.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 20, 2015

Mr. JOLLY (for himself and Mr. LOEBSACK) introduced the following bill;
which was referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs

A BILL

To amend title 38, United States Code, to make certain improvements to the monthly housing stipend payable under the Post-9/11 Educational Assistance Program of the Department of Veterans Affairs.

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 “Student Veterans
5 Housing Support Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. IMPROVEMENTS TO HOUSING STIPEND BENEFITS**
2 **PAYABLE UNDER POST-9/11 EDUCATIONAL AS-**
3 **SISTANCE PROGRAM OF DEPARTMENT OF**
4 **VETERANS AFFAIRS.**

5 (a) HOUSING STIPEND FOR INDIVIDUALS PURSUING
6 PROGRAMS OF EDUCATION THROUGH DISTANCE LEARN-
7 ING.—Section 3313(c)(1)(B) of title 38, United States
8 Code, is amended—

9 (1) in clause (i)—

10 (A) in the matter preceding subclause (I),
11 by inserting “(including a program of education
12 pursued solely through distance learning)” after
13 “program of education”; and

14 (B) in subclause (I), by inserting “(except
15 in the case of an individual pursuing an pro-
16 gram of education solely through distance
17 learning, the ZIP code area in which the indi-
18 vidual resides)” after “institution of higher
19 learning”;

20 (2) by striking clause (iii); and

21 (3) by redesignating clause (iv) as clause (iii).

22 (b) TRANSITIONAL HOUSING STIPEND FOR INDIVID-
23 UALS PURSUING COLLEGE DEGREES.—Section
24 3313(c)(1)(B) of title 38, United States Code, as amended
25 by subsection (a), is further amended by adding at the
26 end the following new clause:

1 “(iv) In the case of an individual who pur-
2 sues a program of education described in clause
3 (i), for the month immediately preceding the
4 first month in which the individual pursues
5 such program of education, a monthly housing
6 stipend in the amount payable under such
7 clause for a month during which the individual
8 pursues the program of education. Any benefits
9 provided to an individual under this clause are
10 in addition to any other educational assistance
11 benefits provided to the individual under this
12 chapter.”.

13 (c) REINSTATEMENT OF AUTHORITY TO MAKE CER-
14 TAIN INTERVAL PAYMENTS.—Section 3680 of title 38,
15 United States Code, is amended—

16 (1) in subsection (a), by striking “Notwith-
17 standing the foregoing” and all that follows; and

18 (2) by inserting at the end the following new
19 subsection:

20 “(h) INTERVAL PAYMENTS.—(1) Notwithstanding
21 subsection (a), the Secretary may, subject to such regula-
22 tions as the Secretary shall prescribe, continue to pay al-
23 lowances to eligible veterans and eligible persons enrolled
24 in courses set forth in subsection (a)(1) during—

1 “(A) periods when the schools are temporarily
2 closed under an established policy based upon an
3 Executive order of the President or due to an emer-
4 gency situation;

5 “(B) periods between consecutive school terms
6 where such veterans or persons transfer from one
7 approved educational institution to another approved
8 educational institution for the purpose of enrolling
9 in and pursuing a similar course at the second insti-
10 tution if the period between such consecutive terms
11 does not exceed 30 days; or

12 “(C) periods between school terms where the
13 educational institution certifies the enrollment of the
14 eligible veteran or eligible person on an individual
15 term basis—

16 “(i) if—

17 “(I) the period between those terms
18 does not exceed eight weeks; and

19 “(II) both the terms preceding and
20 following the period are not shorter in
21 length than the period; or

22 “(ii) if—

23 “(I) the period falls between consecu-
24 tive spring and fall semesters; and

1 “(II) the eligible veteran or eligible
2 person provides proof of residence within
3 the ZIP code area of the educational insti-
4 tution during that period.

5 “(2) Any benefits provided to an individual under this
6 subsection are in addition to any other educational assist-
7 ance benefits provided to the individual under this title.”.

8 (d) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by
9 this section shall take effect on the date of the enactment
10 of this Act and apply with respect to a month beginning
11 after the date of the enactment of this Act.

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