

Union Calendar No. 352

115TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 4323

[Report No. 115-473]

To promote veteran involvement in STEM education, computer science, and scientific research, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NOVEMBER 9, 2017

Mr. DUNN (for himself, Mr. TAKANO, Mr. SMITH of Texas, Mr. LOUDERMILK, Mr. BABIN, Mr. KNIGHT, Mr. MARSHALL, and Mr. BANKS of Indiana) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology

DECEMBER 18, 2017

Additional sponsors: Mr. ABRAHAM, Mr. O'ROURKE, and Ms. ESTY of Connecticut

DECEMBER 18, 2017

Committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union and ordered to be printed

A BILL

To promote veteran involvement in STEM education, computer science, and scientific research, 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 “Supporting Veterans
5 in STEM Careers Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

7 In this Act:

8 (1) DIRECTOR.—The term “Director” means
9 the Director of the National Science Foundation.

10 (2) FOUNDATION.—The term “Foundation”
11 means the National Science Foundation.

12 (3) STEM.—The term “STEM” has the mean-
13 ing given the term in section 2 of the America COM-
14 PETES Reauthorization Act of 2010 (42 U.S.C.
15 6621 note).

16 (4) VETERAN.—The term “veteran” has the
17 meaning given the term in section 101 of title 38,
18 United States Code.

19 **SEC. 3. SUPPORTING VETERANS IN STEM EDUCATION AND**
20 **COMPUTER SCIENCE.**

21 (a) SUPPORTING VETERAN INVOLVEMENT IN SCI-
22 ENTIFIC RESEARCH AND STEM EDUCATION.—The Di-
23 rector shall, through the research and education activities
24 of the Foundation, encourage veterans to study and pur-

1 sue careers in STEM and computer science, in coordina-
2 tion with other Federal agencies that serve veterans.

3 (b) VETERAN OUTREACH PLAN.—Not later than 90
4 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Director
5 shall submit to the Committee on Science, Space, and
6 Technology of the House of Representatives and the Com-
7 mittee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the
8 Senate a plan for how the Foundation can enhance its out-
9 reach efforts to veterans. Such plan shall—

10 (1) report on the Foundation’s existing out-
11 reach activities;

12 (2) identify the best method for the Foundation
13 to leverage existing authorities and programs to fa-
14 cilitate and support veterans in STEM careers and
15 studies, including teaching programs; and

16 (3) identify a method for the Foundation to
17 track veteran participation in research and edu-
18 cation programs of the Foundation, and describe
19 any barriers to collecting such information.

20 (c) NATIONAL SCIENCE BOARD INDICATORS RE-
21 PORT.—The National Science Board shall provide in its
22 annual report on indicators of the state of science and en-
23 gineering in the United States any available and relevant
24 data on veterans in science and engineering careers or
25 education programs.

1 (d) ROBERT NOYCE TEACHER SCHOLARSHIP PRO-
2 GRAM UPDATE.—Section 10 of the National Science
3 Foundation Authorization Act of 2002 (42 U.S.C. 1862n-
4 1) is amended—

5 (1) in subsection (a)(5)—

6 (A) in subparagraph (A), by striking
7 “and” at the end;

8 (B) in subparagraph (B), by striking the
9 period and inserting “; and”; and

10 (C) by adding at the end the following:

11 “(C) higher education programs that serve
12 or support veterans.”;

13 (2) in subsection (b)(2)(F)—

14 (A) by striking “and students” and insert-
15 ing “, students”; and

16 (B) by inserting “, and veterans” before
17 the period at the end;

18 (3) in subsection (c)(2), by inserting “and vet-
19 erans” before the period at the end; and

20 (4) in subsection (d)(2), by inserting “and vet-
21 erans” before the period at the end.

22 (e) NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION TEACHING
23 FELLOWSHIPS AND MASTER TEACHING FELLOWSHIPS
24 UPDATE.—Section 10A(d) of the National Science Foun-

1 dation Authorization Act of 2002 (42 U.S.C. 1862n-
2 1a(d)) is amended—

3 (1) in paragraph (3)(F)—

4 (A) by striking “and individuals” and in-
5 serting “, individuals”; and

6 (B) by inserting “, and veterans” before
7 the period at the end; and

8 (2) in paragraph (4)(B), by inserting “and vet-
9 erans” before the period at the end.

10 (f) NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION COMPUTER
11 AND NETWORK SECURITY CAPACITY BUILDING GRANTS
12 UPDATE.—Section 5(a) of the Cyber Security Research
13 and Development Act of 2002 (15 U.S.C. 7404(a)) is
14 amended—

15 (1) in paragraph (1), by inserting “and stu-
16 dents who are veterans” after “these fields”; and

17 (2) in paragraph (3)—

18 (A) in subparagraph (I), by striking “and”
19 at the end;

20 (B) by redesignating subparagraph (J) as
21 subparagraph (K); and

22 (C) by inserting after subparagraph (I) the
23 following:

1 “(J) creating opportunities for veterans to
2 transition to careers in computer and network
3 security; and”.

4 (g) GRADUATE TRAINEESHIPS IN COMPUTER AND
5 NETWORK SECURITY RESEARCH UPDATE.—Section
6 5(c)(6)(C) of the Cyber Security Research and Develop-
7 ment Act of 2002 (15 U.S.C. 7404(c)(6)(C)) is amended
8 by inserting “or veterans,” after “disciplines”.

9 (h) VETERANS AND MILITARY FAMILIES STEM
10 EDUCATION INTERAGENCY SUBCOMMITTEE.—

11 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Director of the Office of
12 Science and Technology Policy shall establish a sub-
13 committee under the Committee on STEM Edu-
14 cation of the National Science and Technology
15 Council (established under section 101 of the Amer-
16 ica COMPETES Reauthorization Act of 2010) to
17 coordinate Federal programs and policies for
18 transitioning and training veterans and military
19 spouses for STEM careers.

20 (2) DUTIES OF SUBCOMMITTEE.—The sub-
21 committee established under paragraph (1) shall—

22 (A) coordinate Federal agency STEM out-
23 reach activities and programs for veterans and
24 military spouses; and

1 (B) develop and facilitate the implementa-
2 tion by participating agencies of a strategic
3 plan, which shall—

4 (i) specify and prioritize short- and
5 long-term objectives;

6 (ii) specify the common metrics that
7 will be used by Federal agencies to assess
8 progress toward achieving such objectives;

9 (iii) identify barriers veterans face in
10 reentering the workforce, including a lack
11 of formal STEM education, career guid-
12 ance, and the process of transferring mili-
13 tary credits and skills to college credits;

14 (iv) identify barriers military spouses
15 face in establishing careers in STEM
16 fields;

17 (v) describe the approaches that each
18 participating agency will take to address
19 administratively the barriers described in
20 clauses (iii) and (iv); and

21 (vi) identify any barriers that require
22 Federal or State legislative or regulatory
23 changes in order to be addressed.

24 (3) DUTIES OF OSTP.—The Director of the Of-
25 fice of Science and Technology Policy shall encour-

1 age and monitor the efforts of the Federal agencies
2 participating in the subcommittee to ensure that the
3 strategic plan required under paragraph (2)(B) is
4 developed and executed effectively and that the ob-
5 jectives of such strategic plan are met.

6 (4) REPORT.—The Director of the Office of
7 Science and Technology Policy shall—

8 (A) not later than 1 year after the date of
9 enactment of this Act, submit to Congress the
10 strategic plan required under paragraph (2)(B);
11 and

12 (B) include in the annual report required
13 by section 101(d) of the America COMPETES
14 Reauthorization Act a description of any
15 progress made in carrying out the activities de-
16 scribed in paragraph (2)(B) of this subsection.

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