

**Calendar No. 556**111<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESS  
2<sup>D</sup> SESSION**S. 3234****[Report No. 111-285]**

To improve employment, training, and placement services furnished to veterans, especially those serving in Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom, and for other purposes.

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**IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES**

APRIL 20, 2010

Mrs. MURRAY (for herself, Mrs. LINCOLN, Mr. BEGICH, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. REID, Mr. DURBIN, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. WYDEN, Mrs. BOXER, Mr. BROWN of Ohio, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Ms. SNOWE, Mr. LAUTENBERG, and Ms. CANTWELL) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs

SEPTEMBER 2, 2010

Reported under authority of the order of the Senate of August 5, 2010, by  
Mr. AKAKA, with an amendment

[Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert the part printed in italic]

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**A BILL**

To improve employment, training, and placement services furnished to veterans, especially those serving in Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom, 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,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “Veteran Employment  
3 Assistance Act of 2010”.

4 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

5 Congress makes the following findings:

6 (1) In 2008, the unemployment rate of veterans  
7 between the ages of 18 and 24 was 14.1 percent.

8 (2) In 2009, the unemployment rate of male  
9 veterans between the ages of 18 and 24 was 21.6  
10 percent and the unemployment rate of female vet-  
11 erans in the same age group was 19.2 percent.

12 (3) The unemployment rate of veterans in all  
13 age groups is expected to increase as a result of the  
14 economic downturn that began in 2008.

15 (4) In 2004, approximately 22 percent of vet-  
16 erans were either purchasing or starting a new busi-  
17 ness, or considering doing so.

18 (5) One of the most critical problems identified  
19 by veteran small business owners is a lack of knowl-  
20 edge about programs of assistance available to small  
21 businesses.

22 (6) Members of the Armed Forces learn a wide  
23 range of technical skills during their time in the  
24 Armed Forces, but often find it difficult to transfer  
25 these skills into civilian professions.

1           (7) The Commissioner of Labor Statistics esti-  
 2           mates that career opportunities in the fields of  
 3           health care and information technology will expand  
 4           significantly in the coming decade.

5 **SEC. 3. VETERANS BUSINESS CENTER PROGRAM.**

6           (a) **IN GENERAL.**—Section 32 of the Small Business  
 7 Act (15 U.S.C. 657b) is amended—

8           (1) in subsection (f), by inserting “subsections  
 9           (a) through (e) of” before “this section”; and

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

11           “**(g) VETERANS BUSINESS CENTER PROGRAM.**—

12           “**(1) ESTABLISHMENT.**—The Administrator, in  
 13           consultation with the Secretary of Labor, shall es-  
 14           tablish a veterans business center program to pro-  
 15           vide entrepreneurial training and counseling to vet-  
 16           erans in accordance with this subsection.

17           “**(2) DIRECTOR.**—The Administrator shall ap-  
 18           point a Director of the veterans business center pro-  
 19           gram, who shall—

20           “**(A)** implement and oversee the veterans  
 21           business center program; and

22           “**(B)** report directly to the Associate Ad-  
 23           ministratoꝛ.

24           “**(3) DESIGNATION OF VETERANS BUSINESS**  
 25           **CENTERS.**—The Director shall—

1           “(A) by regulation establish an application;  
2 review, and notification process under which the  
3 Director may designate entities as veterans  
4 business centers for purposes of this section;  
5 and

6           “(B) publicize the designation of an entity  
7 as a veterans business center and the award of  
8 a grant to a veterans business center under this  
9 subsection.

10           “(4) FUNDING FOR VETERANS BUSINESS CEN-  
11 TERS.—

12           “(A) INITIAL GRANTS.—The Director may  
13 make a grant to each veterans business center  
14 each year in the amount of \$150,000. The Di-  
15 rector may not make more than 5 grants under  
16 this subparagraph to a veterans business cen-  
17 ter.

18           “(B) GROWTH FUNDING GRANTS.—If a  
19 veterans business center has received 5 initial  
20 grants, the Director may make a grant to the  
21 veterans business center each year in the  
22 amount of \$100,000. The Director may not  
23 make more than 3 grants under this subpara-  
24 graph to a veterans business center.

1           “(5) ACCOUNTABILITY.—Each veterans busi-  
2           ness center receiving an initial grant or a growth  
3           funding grant shall—

4                   “(A) meet performance benchmarks (which  
5                   shall be established by the Director for the vet-  
6                   erans business center and reflect the purposes  
7                   of this subsection) to be eligible for an initial  
8                   grant or growth funding grant in a subsequent  
9                   year; and

10                   “(B) submit to the Director an annual re-  
11                   port on the performance of the veterans busi-  
12                   ness center, which shall include—

13                           “(i) a description of the use of the  
14                           grant under this subsection and matching  
15                           funds to carry out the activities of the vet-  
16                           erans business center; and

17                           “(ii) a description of the progress of  
18                           the veterans business center in meeting the  
19                           performance benchmarks described in sub-  
20                           paragraph (A).

21           “(6) CENTER RESPONSIBILITIES.—Each vet-  
22           erans business center receiving an initial grant or a  
23           growth funding grant shall use the funds received  
24           under the grant for—

25                   “(A) veteran entrepreneurial development;

1           “(B) counseling of veterans who own small  
2 business concerns or who are seeking to own a  
3 small business concern through one-on-one in-  
4 struction and classes, including counseling re-  
5 lating to financial literacy;

6           “(C) education about services available  
7 through one-stop centers referred to in section  
8 134(e) of the Workforce Investment Act of  
9 1998 (29 U.S.C. 2864(e)), including veterans  
10 employment assistance and job announcement  
11 services;

12           “(D) education about tax provisions relat-  
13 ing to first time owners of business concerns,  
14 owners of small business concerns, and vet-  
15 erans;

16           “(E) information on the availability of  
17 mentoring services and referrals, as appro-  
18 priate; and

19           “(F) information on government procure-  
20 ment assistance available to veterans.

21           “(7) MATCHING FUNDS.—

22           “(A) IN GENERAL.—A veterans business  
23 center receiving an initial grant or a growth  
24 funding grant shall provide a contribution, in

1 cash or in-kind, that is not less than 50 percent  
2 of the amount of the grant.

3 “(B) SOURCE OF CONTRIBUTION.—Not  
4 more than 25 percent of a contribution under  
5 subparagraph (A) may be provided from other  
6 Federal funds. The contribution may be pro-  
7 vided from funds made available by a State,  
8 local government, or private person.

9 “(C) WAIVER.—

10 “(i) IN GENERAL.—The Director may,  
11 upon request, waive a portion of the  
12 matching contribution under this para-  
13 graph upon a determination of hardship to  
14 the veterans business center.

15 “(ii) CONSIDERATIONS.—In deter-  
16 mining whether a veterans business center  
17 is experiencing a hardship, the Director  
18 shall consider—

19 “(I) whether the veterans busi-  
20 ness center is operating at an eco-  
21 nomic loss;

22 “(II) whether the veterans busi-  
23 ness center would continue to operate  
24 without a waiver; and

1                   “~~(III)~~ other factors the Director  
2                   considers appropriate.

3                   “~~(8)~~ TARGETED AREAS.—The Director shall  
4                   give priority to applications to be designated a vet-  
5                   erans business center and for initial grants and  
6                   growth funding grants under this subsection that  
7                   will establish a veterans business center in a geo-  
8                   graphic area, as determined by the Director—

9                   “~~(A)~~ that is not currently served by a vet-  
10                  erans business center; and

11                  “~~(B)~~ in which—

12                   “~~(i)~~ the number of veterans per capita  
13                   exceeds the national median of the number  
14                   of veterans per capita;

15                   “~~(ii)~~ the number of veterans of Oper-  
16                   ation Iraqi Freedom or Operation Endur-  
17                   ing Freedom per capita exceeds the na-  
18                   tional median of the number of veterans of  
19                   Operation Iraqi Freedom or Operation En-  
20                   during Freedom per capita; or

21                   “~~(iii)~~ the expected number of veterans  
22                   of Operation Iraqi Freedom or Operation  
23                   Enduring Freedom per capita, as deter-  
24                   mined by the Secretary of Defense, will ex-  
25                   ceed the national median of the number of



1 veterans of Operation Iraqi Freedom or  
2 Operation Enduring Freedom per capita.

3 “(9) TRAINING PROGRAM.—The Director shall  
4 develop and implement, directly or by contract, an  
5 annual training program for the employees of vet-  
6 erans business centers to provide education, support,  
7 and information on best practices with respect to the  
8 establishment and operation of a veterans business  
9 center. The Director shall develop the training pro-  
10 gram under this paragraph in consultation with vet-  
11 erans business centers, the task force, the Employ-  
12 ment and Training Administration and the Vet-  
13 erans’ Employment and Training Service of the De-  
14 partment of Labor, and veterans service organiza-  
15 tions.

16 “(10) INCLUSION OF OTHER ORGANIZATIONS IN  
17 PROGRAM.—The Director shall designate as a vet-  
18 erans business center, and may make a initial grant  
19 to—

20 “(A) a Veterans Business Outreach Center  
21 established by the Administrator under section  
22 8(b)(17) on or before the date of enactment of  
23 this subsection; and

24 “(B) each person or entity that—

1           “(i) received funds during fiscal year  
2           2006 from the National Veterans Business  
3           Development Corporation established  
4           under section 33; and

5           “(ii) is in operation on the date of en-  
6           actment of this subsection.

7           ~~“(11) ANNUAL REPORT ON EFFECTIVENESS OF~~  
8           ~~VETERAN BUSINESS CENTERS.—~~

9           ~~“(A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year~~  
10          ~~after the date of enactment of this subsection;~~  
11          ~~and every year thereafter, the Administrator~~  
12          ~~shall submit a report on the performance of the~~  
13          ~~veterans business center program to—~~

14          ~~“(i) the Committee on Veterans’ Af-~~  
15          ~~fairs, the Committee on Appropriations,~~  
16          ~~the Committee on Small Business and En-~~  
17          ~~trepreneurship, and the Committee on~~  
18          ~~Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions of~~  
19          ~~the Senate;~~

20          ~~“(ii) the Committee on Veterans’ Af-~~  
21          ~~fairs, the Committee on Appropriations,~~  
22          ~~and the Committee on Small Business of~~  
23          ~~the House of Representatives; and~~

1           “(iii) relevant Federal agencies, in-  
2           cluding the Department of Veterans Af-  
3           fairs and the Department of Labor.

4           “(B) CONTENTS.—Each report under sub-  
5           paragraph (A) shall include, for the 1-year pe-  
6           riod ending on the date of the report—

7           “(i) an assessment of the compliance  
8           of each veterans business center receiving  
9           an initial grant or growth funding grant  
10          with the performance benchmarks estab-  
11          lished for the veterans business center  
12          under paragraph (5)(A);

13          “(ii) the number of veterans assisted  
14          by a veterans business center receiving an  
15          initial grant or growth funding grant;

16          “(iii) comments, if any, from veterans  
17          who sought the assistance of a veterans  
18          business center;

19          “(iv) the success rate, as determined  
20          by the Administrator, of small business  
21          concerns owned and controlled by veterans  
22          who sought assistance from a veterans  
23          business center; and

1                   “(v) any other performance indicators  
2                   and information the Administrator deter-  
3                   mines appropriate.

4                   “(C) PUBLIC AVAILABILITY.—The Director  
5                   shall disseminate the findings of each report  
6                   under subparagraph (A) online and to the vet-  
7                   eran, small business, and workforce develop-  
8                   ment communities.

9                   “(12) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—  
10                  There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out  
11                  this subsection—

12                   “(A) \$10,000,000 for fiscal year 2011; and

13                   “(B) \$12,000,000 for fiscal year 2012.

14                  “(h) ADDITIONAL GRANTS AVAILABLE TO VETERANS  
15                  BUSINESS CENTERS.—

16                   “(1) ACCESS TO CAPITAL GRANT PROGRAM.—

17                   “(A) IN GENERAL.—The Director shall es-  
18                   tablish a grant program under which the Direc-  
19                   tor may make grants to veterans business cen-  
20                   ters to—

21                   “(i) develop specialized programs to  
22                   assist small business concerns owned and  
23                   controlled by veterans in securing capital  
24                   and repairing damaged credit;

1           “(ii) provide informational seminars  
2           on financial literacy, securing loans, and  
3           Federal, State and local tax provisions and  
4           incentives for small business concerns  
5           owned and controlled by veterans;

6           “(iii) provide one-on-one counseling to  
7           small business concerns owned and con-  
8           trolled by veterans to improve the financial  
9           presentations of the small business concern  
10          to lenders;

11          “(iv) facilitate the access of small  
12          business concerns owned and controlled by  
13          veterans to traditional and non-traditional  
14          financing sources; and

15          “(v) establish links to and partner-  
16          ships with local workforce boards and busi-  
17          ness mentoring organizations.

18          “(B) AWARD SIZE.—The Director may not  
19          make grants under this paragraph to a veterans  
20          business center in a total amount of more than  
21          \$75,000 during any 1-year period.

22          “(C) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIA-  
23          TIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated  
24          to carry out this paragraph \$1,500,000 for each  
25          of fiscal years 2011 and 2012.

1           ~~“(2) PROCUREMENT ASSISTANCE GRANT PRO-~~  
2           ~~GRAM.—~~

3           ~~“(A) IN GENERAL.—~~The Director shall es-  
4           ~~tablish a grant program under which the Direc-~~  
5           ~~tor may make grants to veterans business cen-~~  
6           ~~ters to—~~

7                   ~~“(i) assist small business concerns~~  
8                   ~~owned and controlled by veterans in identi-~~  
9                   ~~fying contracts that are suitable for the~~  
10                  ~~small business concern;~~

11                  ~~“(ii) prepare small business concerns~~  
12                  ~~owned and controlled by veterans to act as~~  
13                  ~~subcontractors and prime contractors for~~  
14                  ~~contracts made available under the Amer-~~  
15                  ~~ican Recovery and Reinvestment Act of~~  
16                  ~~2009 (Public Law 111–5; 123 Stat. 115)~~  
17                  ~~through training and business advice, par-~~  
18                  ~~ticularly with respect to the construction~~  
19                  ~~trades; and~~

20                  ~~“(iii) provide technical assistance to~~  
21                  ~~small business concerns owned and con-~~  
22                  ~~trolled by veterans relating to the Federal~~  
23                  ~~procurement process, including assisting in~~  
24                  ~~compliance with Federal regulations and~~  
25                  ~~bonding requirements.~~

1           “(B) AWARD SIZE.—The Director may not  
2           make grants under this paragraph to a veterans  
3           business center in a total amount of more than  
4           \$75,000 during any 1-year period.

5           “(C) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIA-  
6           TIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated  
7           to carry out this paragraph \$1,500,000 for each  
8           of fiscal years 2011 and 2012.

9           “(3) SERVICE-DISABLED VETERAN-OWNED  
10          SMALL BUSINESS GRANT PROGRAM.—

11           “(A) IN GENERAL.—The Director shall es-  
12           tablish a grant program under which the Direc-  
13           tor may make grants to veterans business cen-  
14           ters to—

15           “(i) develop outreach programs for  
16           service-disabled veterans with respect to  
17           the benefits of self-employment;

18           “(ii) provide tailored training to serv-  
19           ice-disabled veterans with respect to busi-  
20           ness plan development, marketing, budg-  
21           eting, accounting, and merchandising;

22           “(iii) assist small business concerns  
23           owned and controlled by service-disabled  
24           veterans in locating and securing business  
25           opportunities; and

1           “(iv) link service-disabled veterans to  
 2           services provided through one-stop centers  
 3           referred to in section 134(e) of the Work-  
 4           force Investment Act of 1998 (29 U.S.C.  
 5           2864(e)), including information on labor  
 6           market trends, entrepreneurial and related  
 7           training and training providers, student fi-  
 8           nancial aid, and specialized services for  
 9           veterans.

10           “(B) AWARD SIZE.—The Director may not  
 11           make grants under this paragraph to a veterans  
 12           business center in a total amount of more than  
 13           \$75,000 during any 1-year period.

14           “(C) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIA-  
 15           TIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated  
 16           to carry out this paragraph \$1,500,000 for each  
 17           of fiscal years 2011 and 2012.

18           “(i) VETERANS ENTREPRENEURIAL DEVELOPMENT  
 19           SUMMIT.—

20           “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Director of the vet-  
 21           erans business center program established under  
 22           subsection (g) may hold an event, once every 2  
 23           years, to provide networking opportunities, outreach,  
 24           education, training, and support to veterans business  
 25           centers designated under subsection (g), small busi-



1       ness concerns owned and controlled by veterans, vet-  
2       erans service organizations, workforce investment  
3       boards of State and local governments, the Employ-  
4       ment and Training Administration and the Vet-  
5       erans' Employment and Training Service of the De-  
6       partment of Labor, and other entities as determined  
7       appropriate by the Director.

8           “(2) PRESENTATION OF REPORT.—The findings  
9       of the most recently submitted report under sub-  
10      section (g)(12) shall be presented at an event held  
11      under this subsection.

12          “(3) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—  
13      There is authorized to be appropriated to carry out  
14      this subsection \$450,000 for each of fiscal years  
15      2011 and 2012.

16          “(j) DEFINITIONS.—In this section—

17           “(1) the term ‘Associate Administrator’ means  
18      the Associate Administrator for Veterans Business  
19      Development appointed under section 4(b)(1);

20           “(2) the term ‘Director’ means the Director of  
21      the veterans business center program;

22           “(3) the term ‘growth funding grant’ means a  
23      grant under subsection (g)(5)(B);

24           “(4) the term ‘initial grant’ means a grant  
25      under subsection (g)(5)(A);

1           “(5) the term ‘task force’ means the inter-  
2 agency task force established under subsection  
3 (e)(1);

4           “(6) the term ‘veterans business center’ means  
5 an entity designated as a veterans business center  
6 under subsection (g)(4)(A); and

7           “(7) the term ‘veterans business center pro-  
8 gram’ means the veterans business center program  
9 established under subsection (g)(2).”.

10       (b) REPORT REGARDING DIRECT LOAN PROGRAM.—

11 The Administrator of the Small Business Administration,  
12 the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, and the Assistant Sec-  
13 retary for Veterans’ Employment and Training shall joint-  
14 ly—

15           (1) assess the efficacy of establishing a Federal  
16 direct loan program for small business concerns  
17 owned and controlled by veterans (as defined in sec-  
18 tion 3 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 632));  
19 and

20           (2) not later than 180 days after the date of  
21 enactment of this Act, submit a report regarding the  
22 assessment under paragraph (1) to—

23           (A) the Committee on Veterans’ Affairs,  
24 the Committee on Appropriations, the Com-  
25 mittee on Small Business and Entrepreneur-

1 ship; and the Committee on Health, Education,  
2 Labor, and Pensions of the Senate; and

3 ~~(B)~~ the Committee on Veterans' Affairs,  
4 the Committee on Appropriations; and the  
5 Committee on Small Business of the House of  
6 Representatives.

7 ~~(c)~~ TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—  
8 Section 32 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 657b)  
9 is amended—

10 (1) in subsection (a), by striking “by the Asso-  
11 ciate Administrator for Veterans Business Develop-  
12 ment” and all that follows and inserting “by the As-  
13 sociate Administrator.”; and

14 (2) in subsection ~~(c)~~(1), by striking “(in this  
15 section referred to as the ‘task force’)”.

16 **SEC. 4. REPORTING REQUIREMENT FOR INTERAGENCY**  
17 **TASK FORCE.**

18 Section 32~~(c)~~ of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C.  
19 657b~~(c)~~) is amended by adding at the end the following:

20 “(4) REPORT.—Not later than 6 months after  
21 the date of enactment of this paragraph, and every  
22 6 months thereafter, the Administrator shall submit  
23 to Congress a report on the appointments made to  
24 and activities of the task force.”.

1 **SEC. 5. PERIOD FOR COMPLETION OF TRAINING OF NEW**  
 2 **DISABLED VETERANS' OUTREACH PROGRAM**  
 3 **SPECIALISTS AND LOCAL VETERANS' EM-**  
 4 **PLOYMENT REPRESENTATIVES BY NATIONAL**  
 5 **VETERANS' EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING**  
 6 **SERVICES INSTITUTE.**

7 (a) **IN GENERAL.**—Section 4102A(e)(8)(A) of title  
 8 38, United States Code, is amended by striking “three-  
 9 year period” and inserting “one-year period”.

10 (b) **EFFECTIVE DATE.**—

11 (1) **APPLICABILITY TO NEW EMPLOYEES.**—The  
 12 amendment made by subsection (a) shall apply with  
 13 respect to a State employee assigned to perform the  
 14 duties of a disabled veterans' outreach program spe-  
 15 cialist or a local veterans' employment representative  
 16 under chapter 41 of such title who is so assigned on  
 17 or after the date of the enactment of this Act.

18 (2) **APPLICABILITY TO PREVIOUSLY HIRED EM-**  
 19 **PLOYEES.**—In the case of such a State employee  
 20 who is so assigned on or after January 1, 2006, and  
 21 before the date of the enactment of this Act, the  
 22 Secretary of Labor shall require the State to require,  
 23 as a condition of a grant or contract under which  
 24 funds are made available to the State in order to  
 25 carry out section 4103A or 4104 of title 38, United  
 26 States Code, each such employee to complete satis-

1 factorily the training described in section  
2 4102A(e)(8)(A) of such title by not later than the  
3 date that is one year after the date of the enactment  
4 of this Act.

5 (e) ~~CROSS-TRAINING.~~—The Secretary of Labor shall  
6 require State employees described by subsection (b) in the  
7 performance of duties described in that subsection—

8 (1) to educate staff of one-stop centers about  
9 the services such State employees provide and the  
10 programs of assistance available to veterans; and

11 (2) in order to strengthen coordination and en-  
12 hance services to veterans; to learn about the em-  
13 ployment and training and related information and  
14 services made available through the one-stop delivery  
15 system.

16 (d) ~~DEFINITIONS.~~—In this section:

17 (1) ~~ONE-STOP CENTER.~~—The term “one-stop  
18 center” means a one-stop center described in section  
19 134(e) of the Workforce Investment Act of 1998 (29  
20 U.S.C. 2864(e)).

21 (2) ~~ONE-STOP DELIVERY SYSTEM.~~—The term  
22 “one-stop delivery system” means a one-stop delivery  
23 system described in such section 134(e).

1 **SEC. 6. EMPLOYMENT TRAINING ASSISTANCE.**

2 (a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 42 of title 38, United  
3 States Code, is amended by adding at the end the fol-  
4 lowing new section:

5 **“§ 4216. Employment training assistance for unem-**  
6 **ployed veterans**

7 “(a) SUBSISTENCE ALLOWANCE.—(1) The Secretary  
8 of Labor shall, acting through the Assistant Secretary for  
9 Veterans’ Employment and Training, pay to each covered  
10 veteran a monthly training subsistence allowance under  
11 this section for each month that a covered veteran is en-  
12 rolled in a full time employment and training program  
13 that—

14 “(A) is offered by an eligible provider of train-  
15 ing services under section 122 of the Workforce In-  
16 vestment Act of 1998 (29 U.S.C. 2842); and

17 “(B) teaches a skill that is connected to a ca-  
18 reer in an in-demand industry, as determined by the  
19 Secretary of Labor.

20 “(2) The amount of the monthly training subsistence  
21 allowance paid to a covered veteran under this subsection  
22 shall be equal to the monthly amount of the basic allow-  
23 ance for housing payable under section 403 of title 37 for  
24 a member of the Armed Forces with dependents in pay  
25 grade E-5 residing in the military housing area that en-

1 compasses all or the majority portion of the ZIP code area  
2 in which the covered veteran resides.

3       “(3) A covered veteran is entitled to training subsist-  
4 ence allowance under this subsection for not more than  
5 six months during each 10-year period beginning on the  
6 date in which the covered veteran first receives training  
7 subsistence allowance under this section.

8       “(b) RELOCATION STIPEND.—(1) In addition to the  
9 training subsistence allowance payable to a covered vet-  
10 eran under subsection (a), the Secretary of Labor shall,  
11 acting through the Assistant Secretary for Veterans’ Em-  
12 ployment and Training, pay to each covered veteran a relo-  
13 cation stipend for expenses incurred by the veteran for one  
14 relocation—

15               “(A) related to the veteran’s participation in an  
16 employment and training program described in sub-  
17 section (a)(1); or

18               “(B) to an employment opportunity related to  
19 the field or subject matter in which the veteran was  
20 trained in an employment and training program de-  
21 scribed in subsection (a)(1).

22       “(2) The amount of relocation stipend paid to a cov-  
23 ered veteran under paragraph (1) may not exceed the less-  
24 er of—

25               “(A) \$5,000; and

1           ~~“(B) the actual amount of expenses incurred by~~  
2           ~~the veteran.~~

3           ~~“(c) COVERED VETERAN.—For purposes of this sec-~~  
4           ~~tion, a covered veteran is a veteran who is—~~

5           ~~“(1) unemployed for a period of not less than~~  
6           ~~four consecutive months at the time of applying for~~  
7           ~~training subsistence allowance under subsection (a);~~

8           ~~“(2) able to complete successfully the employ-~~  
9           ~~ment and training program described in subsection~~  
10          ~~(a)(1), as determined by the Secretary of Labor; and~~

11          ~~“(3) except as provided under this section, ineli-~~  
12          ~~gible for education or training assistance under this~~  
13          ~~title.~~

14          ~~“(d) ANNUAL REPORT.—The Secretary of Labor~~  
15          ~~shall submit to Congress each year a report on the effec-~~  
16          ~~tiveness of the training subsistence allowance under sub-~~  
17          ~~section (a) and the relocation stipend under subsection (b)~~  
18          ~~during the preceding year. Each report shall include, for~~  
19          ~~the year concerned by such report, the following:~~

20                 ~~“(1) The number of veterans who received the~~  
21                 ~~subsistence allowance.~~

22                 ~~“(2) The number of veterans who received the~~  
23                 ~~relocation stipend.~~

24                 ~~“(3) The percentage of veterans who received~~  
25                 ~~the subsistence allowance or relocation stipend and~~



1 completed an employment and training program de-  
2 scribed in subsection (a)(1).

3 “(4) The percentage of veterans who received  
4 the subsistence allowance or relocation stipend and  
5 were employed and retained upon completion of an  
6 employment and training program described in sub-  
7 section (a)(1), as measured by the Secretary of  
8 Labor.

9 “(5) The percentage of veterans who—

10 “(A) received the subsistence allowance or  
11 relocation stipend; and

12 “(B) were employed in the fourth calendar  
13 quarter of such year following graduation from  
14 an employment and training program described  
15 in subsection (a)(1).

16 “(6) The average earnings of veterans, as meas-  
17 ured by the Secretary of Labor, who—

18 “(A) received the subsistence allowance or  
19 relocation stipend; and

20 “(B) completed an employment and train-  
21 ing program described in subsection (a)(1).

22 “(7) Such other matters relating to the effec-  
23 tiveness of the subsistence allowance and the reloca-  
24 tion stipend as the Secretary of Labor considers ap-  
25 propriate.

1       “(e) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There  
2 are authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary of  
3 Labor to carry out this section \$100,000,000 for each fis-  
4 cal year.”.

5       (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections  
6 at the beginning of such chapter 42 is amended by adding  
7 at the end the following:

“4216. Employment training assistance for unemployed veterans.”.

8 **SEC. 7. USE OF ENTITLEMENT UNDER POST-9/11 EDU-**  
9                   **CATIONAL ASSISTANCE FOR APPRENTICE-**  
10                   **SHIPS AND ON-JOB TRAINING.**

11       (a) ENTITLEMENT.—

12           (1) IN GENERAL.—Subchapter II of chapter 33  
13 of title 38, United States Code, is amended by in-  
14 serting after section 3319 the following new section:

15 **“§ 3319A. Apprenticeships and on-job training**

16       “(a) MONTHLY BENEFIT.—Except as provided in  
17 subsections (b) and (c), the amount of the monthly benefit  
18 payment to an individual pursuing a full-time program of  
19 apprenticeship or other on-job training under this chapter  
20 is—

21           “(1) for each of the first six months of the indi-  
22 vidual’s pursuit of such program, 75 percent of the  
23 monthly benefit payment otherwise payable to such  
24 individual under this chapter;

1           “(2) for each of the second six months of the  
2 individual’s pursuit of such program, 55 percent of  
3 such monthly benefit payment; and

4           “(3) for each of the months following the first  
5 12 months of the individual’s pursuit of such pro-  
6 gram, 35 percent of such monthly benefit payment.

7           “(b) REDUCTION.—In any month in which an indi-  
8 vidual pursuing a program of education consisting of a  
9 program of apprenticeship or other on-job training fails  
10 to complete 120 hours of training, the amount of the  
11 monthly benefit payment payable under this chapter to the  
12 individual shall be limited to the same proportion of the  
13 applicable rate determined under subsection (a) as the  
14 number of hours worked during such month, rounded to  
15 the nearest eight hours, bears to 120 hours.

16           “(c) HOUSING ALLOWANCE.—An individual receiving  
17 a monthly benefit pursuant to this section shall receive  
18 a monthly housing stipend amount equal to the monthly  
19 amount of the basic allowance for housing payable under  
20 section 403 of title 37 for a member with dependents in  
21 pay grade E-5 residing in the military housing area that  
22 encompasses all or the majority portion of the ZIP code  
23 area in which the individual resides.

24           “(d) CHARGE TO ENTITLEMENT.—For each month  
25 that an individual is paid a monthly benefit payment

1 under this chapter, the individual's entitlement under this  
2 chapter shall be charged at the rate of—

3           ~~“(1) 75 percent of a month in the case of pay-~~  
4           ~~ments made in accordance with subsection (a)(1);~~

5           ~~“(2) 55 percent of a month in the case of pay-~~  
6           ~~ments made in accordance with subsection (a)(2);~~

7           and

8           ~~“(3) 35 percent of a month in the case of pay-~~  
9           ~~ments made in accordance with subsection (a)(3).~~

10          ~~“(e) REDUCED CHARGE TO ENTITLEMENT.—For~~  
11          ~~any month in which an individual fails to complete 120~~  
12          ~~hours of training, the entitlement otherwise chargeable~~  
13          ~~under subsection (d) shall be reduced in the same propor-~~  
14          ~~tion as the monthly benefit payment payable is reduced~~  
15          ~~under subsection (b).~~

16          ~~“(f) PROGRAM OF APPRENTICESHIP DEFINED.—In~~  
17          ~~this section, the term ‘program of apprenticeship’ means~~  
18          ~~a program of apprenticeship registered under the Act of~~  
19          ~~August 16, 1937 (commonly known as the ‘National Ap-~~  
20          ~~prenticeship Act’; 50 Stat. 664; chapter 663; 29 U.S.C.~~  
21          ~~50 et seq.).”.~~

22                 (2) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sec-  
23                 tions at the beginning of such chapter is amended  
24                 by inserting after the item relating to section 3319  
25                 the following new item:

“3319A. Apprenticeships and on-job training.”.

1 (b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—Section 3313 of  
2 such title is amended—

3 (1) in subsection (a), by inserting “or section  
4 3319A of this title” after “subsections (e) and (f)”;  
5 and

6 (2) by amending subsection (b) to read as fol-  
7 lows:

8 “(b) APPROVED PROGRAMS OF EDUCATION.—A pro-  
9 gram of education is an approved program of education  
10 for purposes of this chapter if the program of education—

11 “(1) is—

12 “(A) offered by an institution of higher  
13 learning (as that term is defined in section  
14 3452(f) of this title); and

15 “(B) approved for purposes of chapter 30  
16 of this title (including approval by the State ap-  
17 proving agency concerned); or

18 “(2) in the case of an individual who is not  
19 serving on active duty, includes a program of ap-  
20 prenticeship or of other on-job training approved as  
21 provided in paragraph (1) or (2), as appropriate, of  
22 section 3687(a) of this title.”

23 (c) TECHNICAL CORRECTION.—Section 3002(3)(C)  
24 of such title is amended by striking “clause” and inserting  
25 “paragraph”.

1       (d) **EFFECTIVE DATE.**—The amendments made by  
 2 this section shall take effect as if included in the enact-  
 3 ment of the ~~Post-9/11 Veterans Educational Assistance~~  
 4 ~~Act of 2008 (title V of Public Law 110-252).~~

5 **SEC. 8. VETERANS CONSERVATION CORPS GRANT PRO-**  
 6 **GRAM.**

7       (a) **GRANT PROGRAM REQUIRED.**—

8           (1) **IN GENERAL.**—The Secretary of Veterans  
 9 Affairs shall, in consultation with the Secretary of  
 10 Labor and the Secretary of the Interior, establish a  
 11 program to award grants to States to establish vet-  
 12 erans conservation corps.

13           (2) **MAXIMUM AMOUNT.**—The amount of a  
 14 grant awarded to a State under this section in any  
 15 year may not exceed \$250,000.

16       (b) **VETERANS CONSERVATION CORPS.**—For pur-  
 17 poses of this section, a veterans conservation corps is a  
 18 corps that—

19           (1) is established by a State—

20                   (A) within the veterans agency of the  
 21 State; or

22                   (B) in affiliation with the veterans agency  
 23 of the State; and

1           (2) provides veterans with volunteer and em-  
2           ployment opportunities with respect to conservation  
3           projects for one or more of the following:

4                   (A) To restore natural habitat.

5                   (B) To maintain Federal, State, or local—

6                           (i) forest lands;

7                           (ii) parks and reserves; and

8                           (iii) other reservations, water, and  
9                   outdoor lands.

10                  (C) To maintain and improve urban and  
11                  suburban storm water management facilities  
12                  and other water management facilities.

13                  (D) To carry out hazardous materials and  
14                  spills response, energy efficiency and other envi-  
15                  ronmental maintenance, stewardship, and res-  
16                  toration projects.

17           (e) TRAINING, EDUCATION, AND CERTIFICATION.—

18                   (1) IN GENERAL.—A State receiving a grant  
19                  under this section to establish a veterans conserva-  
20                  tion corps shall ensure that such corps incorporates  
21                  into the volunteer and employment opportunities  
22                  provided by such corps training, education, and cer-  
23                  tification in environmental restoration and manage-  
24                  ment fields.

1           (2) ~~CONSULTATION.~~—Such State shall ensure  
2           that, in incorporating training, education, and cer-  
3           tification into volunteer and employment opportuni-  
4           ties under paragraph (1), the veterans conservation  
5           corps consults with the following:

6                     (A) State and local workforce investment  
7           boards.

8                     (B) Local institutions of higher education,  
9           including community colleges.

10                    (C) Private schools.

11                    (D) State or local agencies, including State  
12           employment agencies and State forest services.

13                    (E) Labor organizations.

14                    (F) Business involved in the environmental  
15           industry.

16                    (G) Such other entities as the Secretary of  
17           Veterans Affairs considers appropriate.

18           (d) ~~EMPLOYMENT ASSISTANCE.~~—A State receiving a  
19           grant under this section to establish a veterans conserva-  
20           tion corps shall ensure that such corps partners with one-  
21           stop centers, State and local workforce investment boards,  
22           and other State agencies to assist veterans enrolled in  
23           such corps in obtaining employment in the fields of envi-  
24           ronmental restoration and management, and other related  
25           fields.



1 (e) SERVICES.—

2 (1) IN GENERAL.—A State receiving a grant  
3 under this section to establish a veterans conserva-  
4 tion corps shall ensure that such corps—

5 (A) assesses of the veterans participating  
6 in the Corps the skills to help such veterans  
7 identify appropriate employment opportunities  
8 in their local communities that utilize the skills  
9 they developed while in the Armed Forces;

10 (B) assists with or provides referrals for  
11 obtaining benefits available to veterans;

12 (C) facilitates internships or job shadowing  
13 for veterans; and

14 (D) matches veterans with conservation  
15 projects that are aligned with the goals of the  
16 veterans.

17 (2) PARTNERSHIP WITH STATE AND LOCAL  
18 WORKFORCE INVESTMENT BOARDS.—In carrying out  
19 subparagraph (A) and (C) of paragraph (1), the  
20 State shall partner with State and local workforce  
21 investment boards.

22 (f) REPORTS.—Each State receiving a grant under  
23 this section shall submit to the Secretary and the appro-  
24 priate committees of Congress a report on the perform-

1 ance of the veterans conservation corps of such State, in-  
 2 cluding the following:

3 (1) A description of how the grant amount was  
 4 used.

5 (2) An assessment of the performance of such  
 6 corps, including a description of the current veterans  
 7 labor market in such State and the veterans labor  
 8 market in such State in the previous year.

9 (g) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

10 (1) APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES OF CON-  
 11 GRESS.—The term “appropriate committees of Con-  
 12 gress” means—

13 (A) the Committee on Appropriations and  
 14 the Committee on Veterans’ Affairs of the Sen-  
 15 ate; and

16 (B) the Committee on Appropriations and  
 17 the Committee on Veterans’ Affairs of the  
 18 House of Representatives.

19 (2) INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION.—The  
 20 term “institution of higher education” has the  
 21 meaning given the term in section 101 of the Higher  
 22 Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1001).

23 (3) ONE-STOP CENTER.—The term “one-stop  
 24 center” means a one-stop center described in section

1 134(c) of the Workforce Investment Act of 1998 (29  
2 U.S.C. 2864(e)).

3 (4) STATE AND LOCAL WORKFORCE INVEST-  
4 MENT BOARDS.—The term “State and local work-  
5 force investment boards” means a State workforce  
6 investment board and a local workforce investment  
7 board as such terms are defined in section 101 of  
8 the Workforce Investment Act of 1998 (29 U.S.C.  
9 2801).

10 **SEC. 9. CENTER OF EXCELLENCE IN REFORMING HIGHER**  
11 **EDUCATION TO AFFORD ACADEMIC CREDIT**  
12 **FOR MILITARY EXPERIENCE AND TRAINING.**

13 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—

14 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Veterans  
15 Affairs shall, in consultation with the Assistant Sec-  
16 retary of Labor for Veterans’ Employment and  
17 Training, establish a center of excellence for the  
18 purpose described in paragraph (2).

19 (2) PURPOSE.—The purpose described in this  
20 paragraph is the support of research, development,  
21 planning, implementation, and evaluation of methods  
22 for educational institutions to afford academic credit  
23 for military experience and training to—

24 (A) veterans who were discharged or re-  
25 leased from service in the Armed Forces not

1 more than 48 months before applying for ad-  
 2 mission to a program of education at such insti-  
 3 tutions; or

4 (B) members of the reserve components of  
 5 the Armed Forces.

6 (b) GRANTS AND CONTRACTS.—

7 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may, acting  
 8 through the center of excellence, award grants to or  
 9 enter into contracts with eligible institutions for the  
 10 purpose described in subsection (a)(2).

11 (2) MINIMUM AND MAXIMUM AMOUNTS.—The  
 12 Secretary may not award a grant or contract under  
 13 this section in an amount that is less than  
 14 \$2,000,000 or more than \$5,000,000.

15 (c) ELIGIBLE INSTITUTIONS.—For purposes of this  
 16 section, an eligible institution is any partnership that—

17 (1) meets such requirements as the Secretary  
 18 may specify for purposes of this section; and

19 (2) consists of an institution of higher edu-  
 20 cation and one or more of the following:

21 (A) A community college.

22 (B) A university teaching hospital.

23 (C) A military installation, including a fa-  
 24 cility of the National Guard.

1           (D) A Department of Veterans Affairs  
2           medical center.

3           (E) A military medical treatment facility.

4           (d) SELECTION OF GRANT AND CONTRACT RECIPI-  
5           ENTS.—

6           (1) APPLICATION.—An eligible institution seek-  
7           ing a grant or contract under this section shall sub-  
8           mit to the Secretary an application therefor in such  
9           form and in such manner as the Secretary considers  
10          appropriate.

11          (2) PRIORITY FOR CERTAIN APPLICATIONS.—In  
12          selecting applicants for a grant or contract under  
13          this section, the Secretary shall give priority to ap-  
14          plicants who include as a partner an institution of  
15          higher education or other educational institution  
16          that—

17               (A) affords appropriate recognition to mili-  
18               tary experience and training in screening can-  
19               didates for admission to such institution;

20               (B) has an established practice of, or pro-  
21               poses to establish a practice of, affording appro-  
22               priate academic credit for military experience  
23               and training;

24               (C) if the applicant proposes to establish a  
25               practice as described in subparagraph (B), in-

1           cludes with the application submitted by the ap-  
 2           plicant under paragraph (1) a review of such  
 3           plan by a professional organization;

4           (D) has established a professional develop-  
 5           ment and delivery system using evidence-based  
 6           practices; or

7           (E) has demonstrated experience working  
 8           with the Department of Defense or the Depart-  
 9           ment of Veterans Affairs;

10          (3) STANDARDS, PROCEDURES, AND DISTRIBUTION  
 11          CRITERIA.—The Secretary shall, by regulation,  
 12          establish application and evaluation standards and  
 13          procedures and such other forms, standards, defini-  
 14          tions, and procedures as the Secretary determines to  
 15          be appropriate for purposes of this section.

16          (e) USE OF GRANTS AND CONTRACT FUNDS.—Each  
 17          eligible institution receiving a grant or contract under this  
 18          section shall use the grant or contract for one or more  
 19          of the following:

20               (1) To develop or implement a plan to modify  
 21               programs of education and admissions programs at  
 22               institutions of higher education to afford academic  
 23               credit to veterans and members described in sub-  
 24               section (a)(2).

1           (2) To develop standards for the identification  
2 of military experience and training in individuals ap-  
3 plying for enrollment at institutions of higher edu-  
4 cation.

5           (3) To train professors, educators, and instruc-  
6 tors at institutions of higher education on means of  
7 best teaching students at such institutions with mili-  
8 tary experience and training.

9           (4) To develop curriculum for institutions of  
10 higher education that are appropriately tailored to  
11 individuals with military experience and training.

12           (5) To develop admissions and recruitment  
13 guidelines for institutions of higher education to at-  
14 tract veterans and members described in subsection  
15 (a)(2) and afford them appropriate recognition for  
16 military experience and training in their admissions  
17 processes.

18           (6) To establish a program, method, or stand-  
19 ards to be utilized by institutions of higher edu-  
20 cation for assessing the education and training of  
21 veterans and members described in subsection (a)(2)  
22 during the pursuit of a program of education and at  
23 the completion of such program.

24           (f) INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION DE-  
25 FINED.—In this section, the term “institution of higher

1 education” has the meaning given such term in section  
2 101(a) of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C.  
3 1001(a)).

4 **SEC. 10. PUBLICATION OF DATA ON EMPLOYMENT OF CER-**  
5 **TAIN VETERANS BY FEDERAL CONTRACTORS.**

6 Section 4212(d) of title 38, United States Code, is  
7 amended by adding at the end the following:

8 “(3) The Secretary of Labor shall establish and  
9 maintain an Internet website that publicly discloses the  
10 information reported by contractors to the Secretary of  
11 Labor under paragraph (1).”

12 **SEC. 11. MILITARY PATHWAYS DEMONSTRATION PRO-**  
13 **GRAMS.**

14 (a) **MILITARY PATHWAYS DEMONSTRATION PRO-**  
15 **GRAMS.**—Section 171 of the Workforce Investment Act of  
16 1998 (29 U.S.C. 2916) is amended by adding at the end  
17 the following:

18 “(f) **INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY MILITARY PATH-**  
19 **WAYS DEMONSTRATION PROGRAM.**—

20 “(1) **IN GENERAL.**—The Secretary of Labor,  
21 after consultation with the Secretary of Veterans Af-  
22 fairs and the Secretary of Defense, shall establish a  
23 demonstration program and carry out the program  
24 by making grants, on a competitive basis, to not  
25 more than 5 entities for demonstration projects. The



1 projects shall be designed to test the feasibility of  
2 methods of enabling transitioning military members  
3 to build on the technical skills learned in many mili-  
4 tary jobs, to enter the information technology work-  
5 force or continue their skills development in the in-  
6 formation technology disciplines to meet the demand  
7 for information technology workforce readiness in  
8 computer specialist and related information tech-  
9 nology jobs.

10 “(2) ISSUES TO BE EXAMINED.—In carrying  
11 out the program, the Secretary may examine the  
12 feasibility of methods such as the following:

13 “(A) Methods to improve the transitions,  
14 skills development, and employment of  
15 transitioning military members for and in infor-  
16 mation technology occupations with wages suffi-  
17 cient to support families.

18 “(B) Methods to align the information  
19 technology skills acquired in military occupa-  
20 tions with skills required in civilian information  
21 technology occupations in new, emerging, or  
22 viable industries, including aligning the skills—

23 “(i) using guidelines for assessments  
24 and credentials that employers value in the  
25 hiring process, and credentials that are in-

1 industry-recognized and approved by the  
2 Secretary; and

3 “(ii) by means that may include the  
4 use of a modified or enhanced Department  
5 of Defense transition program or a De-  
6 partment of Labor transition program,  
7 such as the program carried out under  
8 chapter 41 of title 38, United States Code.

9 “(C) Methods to ensure that military mem-  
10 bers receive education and training, including  
11 training through apprenticeship programs reg-  
12 istered under the Act of August 16, 1937 (com-  
13 monly known as the ‘National Apprenticeship  
14 Act’; 50 Stat. 664, chapter 663; 29 U.S.C. 50  
15 et seq.) (referred to individually in this sub-  
16 section as an ‘apprenticeship program’); and  
17 necessary support services, that are flexible,  
18 available (including available for deployed mili-  
19 tary members); adequate for individuals seeking  
20 to make the transition to civilian information  
21 technology occupations; and consistent with  
22 academic requirements of the institution in-  
23 volved.

24 “(D) Methods to enable military members  
25 to accelerate application for admission; accept-

1           ance, and graduation as students in computer  
2           science, engineering, and related disciplines at  
3           2-year and 4-year institutions of higher edu-  
4           cation, based on military credentials and experi-  
5           ence.

6           “(E) Methods to help military members  
7           obtain information technology credentials that  
8           are industry-recognized, are approved by the  
9           Secretary, and satisfy both military require-  
10          ments and civilian requirements, prior to re-  
11          lease of the members from the military.

12          “(3) ELIGIBILITY.—To be eligible to receive a  
13          grant under this subsection, an entity shall submit  
14          an application to the Secretary at such time, in such  
15          manner, and containing such information as the Sec-  
16          retary may require, including each of the following:

17               “(A) An assurance that the entity agrees  
18               that, in carrying out the project, the entity will  
19               work in conjunction with a local board and  
20               enter into a partnership that includes, as prin-  
21               cipal partners, employers, labor organizations,  
22               postsecondary education institutions including  
23               institutions of higher education, veterans serv-  
24               ice organizations, and other community organi-  
25               zations.

1           “(B) Information—

2                   “(i) demonstrating the capability of  
3           the entity in working with transitioning  
4           military members;

5                   “(ii) demonstrating that the entity  
6           has a history of effective collaboration  
7           with—

8                           “(I) the information technology  
9                           industry or an industry with signifi-  
10                          cant information technology jobs;

11                           “(II) State boards or local  
12                          boards, as appropriate; and

13                           “(III) institutions of higher edu-  
14                          cation and other information tech-  
15                          nology educators or trainers; and

16                          “(iii) demonstrating knowledge of  
17           training and best practices of the informa-  
18           tion technology industry.

19                   “(C) An assurance that the entity will par-  
20           ticipate in the Secretary’s evaluation plan for  
21           the demonstration program, including partici-  
22           pating in required reporting for the plan.

23                   “(4) SELECTION CRITERIA.—In order to select  
24           entities to receive grants for projects under this sub-  
25           section, the Secretary shall establish selection cri-

1       teria consistent with this subsection and shall ensure  
2       that the criteria give priority to each of the following  
3       types of entities:

4               “(A) Entities that demonstrate the ability  
5               to leverage public or private funds to sustain  
6               such a project after the grant period.

7               “(B) Entities that have relationships with  
8               institutions of higher education or with quali-  
9               fied community-based organizations that pro-  
10              vide training.

11              “(C) Entities that have relationships with  
12              employers, labor organizations, and other enti-  
13              ties that will provide earn and learn opportuni-  
14              ties to veterans.

15              “(D) Entities that have experience working  
16              with veterans and facilitating transitions from  
17              military to civilian work environments.

18              “(E) Entities that have experience design-  
19              ing contextualized learning programs that inte-  
20              grate basic adult education with skills training.

21              “(5) PROGRAM EVALUATION AND TECHNICAL  
22              ASSISTANCE.—Using not more than 10 percent of  
23              the amount made available to carry out this sub-  
24              section, the Secretary may—

1           “(A) conduct an evaluation to determine  
2           promising methods of increasing the number of  
3           highly skilled transitioning military members  
4           who enter civilian information technology occu-  
5           pations and earn wages sufficient to support  
6           families; and

7           “(B) provide technical assistance to enti-  
8           ties receiving grants under this subsection, re-  
9           lating to the promising methods.

10          “(6) REPORT.—The Secretary shall prepare  
11          and submit to the appropriate committees of Con-  
12          gress and Federal agencies a final report on the  
13          findings and outcomes of the demonstration program  
14          carried out under this subsection. The Secretary  
15          shall broadly distribute the report through the vet-  
16          erans service organizations, State boards, and local  
17          boards.

18          “(7) DEFINITIONS.—In this subsection:

19               “(A) INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY.—The  
20               term ‘information technology’ means any equip-  
21               ment or interconnected system or subsystem of  
22               equipment—

23                       “(i) used in the automatic acquisition,  
24                       storage, analysis, evaluation, manipulation,  
25                       management, movement, control, display,

1 switching, interchange, transmission, or re-  
 2 ception of data or information; and

3 “(ii) includes the following:

4 “(I) Computers.

5 “(II) Ancillary equipment for  
 6 computers (including imaging periph-  
 7 erals, and input, output, and storage  
 8 devices necessary for security and sur-  
 9 veillance).

10 “(III) Peripheral equipment de-  
 11 signed to be controlled by the central  
 12 processing unit of a computer.

13 “(IV) Software.

14 “(V) Computer services (includ-  
 15 ing support services).

16 “(VI) Other computer-related re-  
 17 sources.

18 “(B) INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDU-  
 19 CATION.—The term ‘institution of higher edu-  
 20 cation’ has the meaning given the term in sec-  
 21 tion 101 of the Higher Education Act of 1965  
 22 (20 U.S.C. 1001).

23 “(C) POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION.—The  
 24 term ‘postsecondary education’ means—

1           “(i) a 4-year program of instruction;  
2           or not less than a 1-year program of in-  
3           struction that is acceptable for credit to-  
4           ward a baccalaureate degree or an asso-  
5           ciate degree, offered by an institution of  
6           higher education; or

7           “(ii) a certificate or apprenticeship  
8           program at the postsecondary level offered  
9           by an institution of higher education, a  
10          nonprofit educational institution, or a  
11          labor-management partnership.

12           “(8) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—

13          There is authorized to be appropriated to carry out  
14          this subsection \$10,000,000 for each fiscal year.

15           “(g) NURSING, PUBLIC HEALTH AND ALLIED  
16          HEALTH PROFESSIONAL, AND PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT  
17          MILITARY PATHWAYS DEMONSTRATION PROGRAM.—

18           “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Labor,  
19          after consultation with the Secretary of Veterans Af-  
20          fairs, Secretary of Defense, and Secretary of Health  
21          and Human Services, shall establish a demonstration  
22          program and carry out the program by making  
23          grants, on a competitive basis, to not more than 5  
24          entities for demonstration projects. The projects  
25          shall be designed to test the feasibility of methods



1 of enabling transitioning military members to build  
2 on the technical skills learned in many military jobs,  
3 to enter the nursing, public health and allied health  
4 professional, and physician assistant workforces or  
5 continue their skills development in disciplines re-  
6 lated to those workforces to meet the demand for  
7 nurses, public health and allied health professionals,  
8 and physician assistants.

9 “(2) ISSUES TO BE EXAMINED.—In carrying  
10 out the program, the Secretary may examine the  
11 feasibility of methods such as the following:

12 “(A) Methods to improve the transitions,  
13 skills development, and employment of  
14 transitioning military members for and in nurs-  
15 ing, public health and allied health professional,  
16 and physician assistant occupations with wages  
17 sufficient to support families.

18 “(B) Methods to align nursing, public  
19 health and allied health professional, and physi-  
20 cian assistant skills acquired in military occupa-  
21 tions with skills required in related civilian  
22 health occupations, including aligning the  
23 skills—

24 “(i) using guidelines for assessments  
25 and credentials that employers value in the

1 hiring process, and credentials that are in-  
2 dustry-recognized and approved by the  
3 Secretary; and

4 “(ii) by means that may include the  
5 use of a modified or enhanced Department  
6 of Defense transition program or a De-  
7 partment of Labor transition program;  
8 such as the program carried out under  
9 chapter 41 of title 38, United States Code.

10 “(C) Methods to ensure that military mem-  
11 bers receive education and training, including  
12 training through apprenticeship programs, and  
13 necessary support services, that are flexible,  
14 available (including available for deployed mili-  
15 tary members), adequate for individuals seeking  
16 to make the transition to civilian nursing, pub-  
17 lic health and allied health, and physician as-  
18 sistant occupations, and consistent with aca-  
19 demic requirements of the institution involved.

20 “(D) Methods to align education and train-  
21 ing programs, including apprenticeship pro-  
22 grams, for veterans in nursing, public health  
23 and allied health professional, and physician as-  
24 sistant occupations with education and training

1 programs for those occupations that are pro-  
2 vided for the public.

3 “(E) Methods to enable military members  
4 to accelerate application for admission, accept-  
5 ance, and graduation as students in nursing,  
6 public health and allied health, and physician  
7 assistant disciplines at 2-year and 4-year insti-  
8 tutions of higher education, based on military  
9 credentials and experience.

10 “(F) Methods to help military members ob-  
11 tain credentials related to those health care oc-  
12 cupations that are industry-recognized, are ap-  
13 proved by the Secretary, and satisfy both mili-  
14 tary requirements and civilian requirements,  
15 prior to release of the members from the mili-  
16 tary.

17 “(3) ELIGIBILITY.—To be eligible to receive a  
18 grant under this subsection, an entity shall submit  
19 an application to the Secretary of such time, in such  
20 manner, and containing such information as the Sec-  
21 retary may require including each of the following:

22 “(A) An assurance that the entity agrees  
23 that, in carrying out the project, the entity will  
24 work in conjunction with a local board and  
25 enter into a partnership that includes, as prin-

1 eipal partners, employers, labor organizations,  
2 postsecondary education institutions including  
3 institutions of higher education, veterans serv-  
4 ice organizations, and other community organi-  
5 zations.

6 “(B) Information—

7 “(i) in demonstrating the capability of  
8 the entity in working with transitioning  
9 military members;

10 “(ii) demonstrating that the entity  
11 has a history of effective collaboration  
12 with—

13 “(I) health care employers;

14 “(II) State boards or local  
15 boards, as appropriate; and

16 “(III) institutions of higher edu-  
17 cation and other nursing, public  
18 health and allied health professional,  
19 and physician assistant educators or  
20 trainers; and

21 “(iii) demonstrating knowledge of  
22 training and best practices of the health  
23 care industry.

24 “(C) An assurance that the entity will par-  
25 ticipate in the Secretary’s evaluation plan for

1 the demonstration program, including partici-  
2 pating in required reporting for the plan.

3 “(4) SELECTION CRITERIA.—In order to select  
4 entities to receive grants for projects under this sub-  
5 section, the Secretary shall establish selection cri-  
6 teria consistent with this subsection and shall ensure  
7 that the criteria give priority to entities that dem-  
8 onstrate the ability to leverage of public or private  
9 funds to sustain such a project after the grant pe-  
10 riod.

11 “(5) PROGRAM EVALUATION AND TECHNICAL  
12 ASSISTANCE.—Using not more than 10 percent of  
13 the amount made available to carry out this sub-  
14 section, the Secretary may—

15 “(A) conduct an evaluation to determine  
16 promising methods of increasing the number of  
17 highly skilled transitioning military members  
18 who enter civilian nursing, public health and al-  
19 lied health, or physician assistant occupations  
20 and earn wages sufficient to support families;  
21 and

22 “(B) provide technical assistance to enti-  
23 ties receiving grants under this subsection, re-  
24 lating to the promising methods.

1           “(6) REPORT.—The Secretary shall prepare  
 2           and submit to the appropriate committees of Con-  
 3           gress and Federal agencies a final report on the  
 4           findings and outcomes of the demonstration program  
 5           carried out under this subsection. The Secretary  
 6           shall broadly distribute the report through the vet-  
 7           erans service organizations, State boards, and local  
 8           boards.

9           “(7) DEFINITIONS.—In this subsection:

10           “(A) ALLIED HEALTH PROFESSIONAL.—

11           The term ‘allied health professional’ means a  
 12           health professional (other than a registered  
 13           nurse or physician assistant) who—

14           “(i) has received a certificate, an asso-  
 15           ciate degree, a baccalaureate degree, a  
 16           master’s degree, a doctoral degree, or  
 17           postbaccalaureate training, in a science re-  
 18           lating to health care;

19           “(ii) shares in the responsibility for  
 20           the delivery of health care services or re-  
 21           lated services, including—

22           “(I) services relating to the iden-  
 23           tification, evaluation, and prevention  
 24           of disease and disorders;

- 1                   “~~(II)~~ dietary and nutrition serv-  
2                   ices;
- 3                   “~~(III)~~ health promotion services;
- 4                   “~~(IV)~~ rehabilitation services; or
- 5                   “~~(V)~~ health systems management  
6                   services; and
- 7                   “~~(iii)~~ has not received—
- 8                   “~~(I)~~ a degree of doctor of medi-  
9                   cine;
- 10                  “~~(II)~~ a degree of doctor of oste-  
11                  opathy;
- 12                  “~~(III)~~ a degree of doctor of den-  
13                  tistry or an equivalent degree;
- 14                  “~~(IV)~~ a degree of doctor of vet-  
15                  erinary medicine or an equivalent de-  
16                  gree;
- 17                  “~~(V)~~ a degree of doctor of optom-  
18                  etry or an equivalent degree;
- 19                  “~~(VI)~~ a degree of doctor of  
20                  podiatric medicine or an equivalent  
21                  degree;
- 22                  “~~(VII)~~ a degree of bachelor of  
23                  science in pharmacy or an equivalent  
24                  degree;

1                   “(VIII) a degree of doctor of  
2                   pharmacy or an equivalent degree;

3                   “(IX) a graduate degree in public  
4                   health or an equivalent degree;

5                   “(X) a degree of doctor of chiro-  
6                   practic or an equivalent degree;

7                   “(XI) a graduate degree in  
8                   health administration or an equivalent  
9                   degree;

10                  “(XII) a doctoral degree in clin-  
11                  ical psychology or an equivalent de-  
12                  gree;

13                  “(XIII) a degree in social work  
14                  or an equivalent degree; or

15                  “(XIV) a degree in counseling or  
16                  an equivalent degree.

17                  “(B) OTHER TERMS.—The terms ‘appren-  
18                  ticeship program’, ‘institution of higher edu-  
19                  cation’, and ‘postsecondary education’ have the  
20                  meanings given the terms in subsection (f).

21                  “(8) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—

22                  There is authorized to be appropriated to carry out  
23                  this subsection \$15,000,000 for each fiscal year.”.

24                  (b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 174(b)(1)  
25 of the Workforce Investment Act of 1998 (29 U.S.C.



1 2919(b)(1)) is amended by inserting “(other than sub-  
 2 section (f) or (g) of section 171)” after “through 172”.

3 **SEC. 12. VETERANS ENERGY-RELATED EMPLOYMENT PRO-**  
 4 **GRAM.**

5 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 168 of the Workforce In-  
 6 vestment Act of 1998 (29 U.S.C. 2913) is amended—

7 (1) by redesignating subsection (b) as sub-  
 8 section (e);

9 (2) in subsection (a)—

10 (A) in subparagraph (B), by striking  
 11 “and” at the end;

12 (B) in subparagraph (C), by striking the  
 13 period and inserting “; and”; and

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

15 “(D) activities described in subsection  
 16 (b).”; and

17 (3) by inserting after subsection (a) the fol-  
 18 lowing:

19 “(b) VETERANS ENERGY-RELATED EMPLOYMENT  
 20 PROGRAM.—

21 “(1) ESTABLISHMENT OF PILOT PROGRAM.—

22 “(A) IN GENERAL.—To encourage the em-  
 23 ployment of eligible veterans in the energy in-  
 24 dustry, the Secretary shall carry out a Veterans  
 25 Energy-Related Employment Program as a

1 pilot program and as a program described in  
2 subsection (a).

3 “(B) GRANTS.—Under the pilot program,  
4 the Secretary shall award grants on a competi-  
5 tive basis to 3 States for the establishment and  
6 administration of State Energy-Related Em-  
7 ployment Programs. In administering such a  
8 program, the State shall make grants to energy  
9 employers and labor-management organizations  
10 that collectively provide covered training, on-  
11 the-job training, apprenticeship programs reg-  
12 istered as described in section 171(f)(2)(C) (re-  
13 ferred to individually in this subsection as an  
14 ‘apprenticeship program’), and certification  
15 classes to eligible veterans. Such a program  
16 may be referred to in this subsection as a ‘State  
17 program’.

18 “(2) ELIGIBILITY FOR GRANTS.—To be eligible  
19 to receive a grant under the pilot program, a State  
20 shall submit to the Secretary an application that in-  
21 cludes each of the following:

22 “(A) A proposal for the expenditure of  
23 grant funds to establish, and administer  
24 through a public-private partnership, a State  
25 Energy-Related Employment Program designed

1 to provide covered training, on-the-job training,  
2 apprenticeship programs, and certification  
3 classes to a significant number of eligible vet-  
4 erans and ensure lasting and sustainable em-  
5 ployment in well-paying jobs in the energy in-  
6 dustry.

7 “(B) Evidence that the State has—

8 “(i) a population of eligible veterans,  
9 of an appropriate size for the State pro-  
10 gram;

11 “(ii) a robust and diverse energy in-  
12 dustry; and

13 “(iii) the ability to carry out the State  
14 program described in the proposal under  
15 subparagraph (A).

16 “(C) Such other information and assur-  
17 ances as the Secretary may require.

18 “(3) USE OF FUNDS.—A State that is the re-  
19 cipient of a grant under this subsection shall use the  
20 grant funds for each of the following purposes:

21 “(A) Making grants to energy employers  
22 and labor-management organizations to reim-  
23 burse such employers and organizations for the  
24 cost of providing covered training, on-the-job

1 training, apprenticeship programs, and certifi-  
2 cation classes to eligible veterans.

3 “(B) Conducting outreach to inform en-  
4 ergy employers, labor-management organiza-  
5 tions, and veterans, including veterans in rural  
6 areas, of their eligibility or potential eligibility  
7 for participation in the State program.

8 “(4) CONDITIONS.—Under the pilot program,  
9 each State that receives a grant under this sub-  
10 section shall be subject to each of the following con-  
11 ditions:

12 “(A) REPAYMENT.—The State shall repay  
13 to the Secretary, on such date as shall be deter-  
14 mined by the Secretary, any amount received  
15 under the pilot program that is not used for the  
16 purposes described in paragraph (3).

17 “(B) SUBMISSION OF REPORTS.—The  
18 State shall submit to the Secretary, at such  
19 times and containing such information as the  
20 Secretary shall require, reports on the use of  
21 the grant funds.

22 “(5) EMPLOYER REQUIREMENTS.—In order to  
23 receive a grant made by a State under the pilot pro-  
24 gram, an energy employer seeking the grant shall, or  
25 a labor-management organization seeking such a

1 grant shall (in coordination with the energy em-  
2 ployer involved)—

3 “(A) submit to the administrator of the  
4 State program an application that includes—

5 “(i) the rate of pay for each eligible  
6 veteran proposed to be served using grant  
7 funds;

8 “(ii) the average rate of pay for an in-  
9 dividual employed by the energy employer  
10 in a similar position who is not an eligible  
11 veteran; and

12 “(iii) such other information and as-  
13 surances as the administrator may require;  
14 and

15 “(B) agree to submit to the administrator,  
16 for each quarter, a report containing such infor-  
17 mation as the Secretary may specify.

18 “(6) LIMITATION.—None of the funds made  
19 available to an energy employer or labor-manage-  
20 ment organization through a grant under the pilot  
21 program may be used to provide services of any kind  
22 to a person who is not an eligible veteran.

23 “(7) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—The Secretary  
24 shall submit to Congress a report on the pilot pro-  
25 gram. The Secretary shall submit the report to-

1 together with the report required to be submitted an-  
2 nually under section 4107(e) of title 38, United  
3 States Code, and with respect to the same year as  
4 is covered by such report. The report on the pilot  
5 program shall include a detailed description of ac-  
6 tivities carried out under this subsection and an  
7 evaluation of the program.

8 “(8) ADMINISTRATIVE AND REPORTING  
9 COSTS.—Of the amounts appropriated pursuant to  
10 the authorization of appropriations under paragraph  
11 (10), 2 percent shall be made available to the Sec-  
12 retary for administrative costs associated with imple-  
13 menting and evaluating the pilot program under this  
14 subsection and for preparing and submitting the re-  
15 port required under paragraph (7). The Secretary  
16 shall determine the appropriate maximum amount of  
17 each grant awarded under this subsection that may  
18 be used by the recipient for administrative and re-  
19 porting costs.

20 “(9) DEFINITIONS.—In this subsection:

21 “(A) COVERED TRAINING, ON-THE-JOB  
22 TRAINING, APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAMS, AND  
23 CERTIFICATION CLASSES.—The term ‘covered  
24 training, on-the-job training, apprenticeship  
25 programs, and certification classes’ means

1 training, on-the-job training, apprenticeship  
2 programs, and certification classes that are—

3 “(i) designed to provide a veteran  
4 with skills that are particular to an energy  
5 industry and not directly transferable to  
6 employment in another industry; and

7 “(ii) approved as provided in para-  
8 graph (1) or (2), as appropriate, of sub-  
9 section (a) of section 3687 of title 38,  
10 United States Code.

11 “(B) ELIGIBLE VETERAN.—The term ‘eli-  
12 gible veteran’ means a veteran described in sub-  
13 section (a) who is employed by an energy em-  
14 ployer and enrolled or participating in a covered  
15 training, on-the-job training, apprenticeship  
16 program, or certification class.

17 “(C) ENERGY EMPLOYER.—The term ‘en-  
18 ergy employer’ means an entity that employs in-  
19 dividuals in a trade or business in an energy in-  
20 dustry.

21 “(D) ENERGY INDUSTRY.—The term ‘en-  
22 ergy industry’ means any of the following in-  
23 dustries:

24 “(i) The energy-efficient building, con-  
25 struction, or retrofits industry.





1 and are not duplicative of, previous medical coursework  
 2 and training received when such veterans were active  
 3 members of the Armed Forces, to enable such veterans  
 4 to satisfy emergency medical services personnel certifi-  
 5 cation requirements, as determined by the appropriate  
 6 State regulatory entity”.

7 **SEC. 14. VETERANS TO WORK PILOT PROGRAM.**

8 (a) VETERANS TO WORK PROGRAM.—Subchapter III  
 9 of chapter 169 of title 10, United States Code, is amended  
 10 by inserting after section 2856 the following new section:

11 **“§ 2857. Veterans to Work pilot program**

12 “(a) PILOT PROGRAM; PURPOSES.—The Secretary of  
 13 Defense shall carry out a pilot program (to be known as  
 14 the ‘Veterans to Work pilot program’) to determine—

15 “(1) the maximum feasible extent to which ap-  
 16 prentices may be employed to work on military con-  
 17 struction projects designated under subsection (b);

18 “(2) the maximum feasible extent to which the  
 19 apprentices so employed are veterans; and

20 “(3) the feasibility of expanding the employ-  
 21 ment of apprentices to military construction projects  
 22 in addition to those projects designated under sub-  
 23 section (b).

24 “(b) DESIGNATION OF MILITARY CONSTRUCTION  
 25 PROJECTS FOR PILOT PROGRAM.—(1) For each of fiscal

1 years 2011 through 2015, the Secretary of Defense shall,  
2 in consultation with the Secretaries of the military depart-  
3 ments, designate for inclusion in the pilot program not less  
4 than 20 military construction projects (including unspec-  
5 ified minor military construction projects under section  
6 2805(a) of this title) that will be conducted in that fiscal  
7 year.

8 “(2) In designating military construction projects  
9 under this subsection, the Secretary of Defense shall—

10 “(A) to the greatest extent possible, designate  
11 military construction projects that are located where  
12 there are veterans enrolled in qualified apprentice-  
13 ship programs or veterans who could be enrolled in  
14 qualified apprenticeship programs in a cost-effective,  
15 timely, and feasible manner;

16 “(B) ensure geographic diversity among the  
17 military construction projects designated; and

18 “(C) select projects to be carried out in the con-  
19 tinental United States, Alaska, Hawaii, Guam, Puer-  
20 to Rico, the Northern Mariana Islands, and the  
21 United States Virgin Islands.

22 “(3) Unspecified minor military construction projects  
23 may not exceed 40 percent of the military construction  
24 projects designated under this subsection for a fiscal year.

1       “(e) CONTRACT PROVISIONS.—Any agreement that  
 2 the Secretary of Defense or the Secretary of a military  
 3 department enters into for a military construction project  
 4 that is designated for inclusion in the pilot program shall  
 5 ensure that, to the maximum extent feasible, apprentices  
 6 shall be employed on the project and that, to the maximum  
 7 extent feasible, such apprentices shall be veterans.

8       “(d) QUALIFIED APPRENTICESHIP AND OTHER  
 9 TRAINING PROGRAMS.—

10           “(1) PARTICIPATION BY EACH CONTRACTOR RE-  
 11 QUIRED.—Each contractor and subcontractor that  
 12 seeks to provide construction services on military  
 13 construction projects designated by the Secretary of  
 14 Defense pursuant to subsection (b) shall submit ade-  
 15 quate assurances with its bid or proposal that it par-  
 16 ticipates in a qualified apprenticeship or other train-  
 17 ing program for each craft or trade classification of  
 18 worker that it intends to employ to perform work on  
 19 the project.

20           “(2) QUALIFIED APPRENTICESHIP OR OTHER  
 21 TRAINING PROGRAM DEFINED.—

22           “(A) IN GENERAL.—In this section, the  
 23 term ‘qualified apprenticeship or other training  
 24 program’ means an apprenticeship or other  
 25 training program that qualifies as an employee

1 welfare benefit plan, as defined in section 3(1)  
2 of the Employee Retirement Income Security  
3 Act of 1974 (29 U.S.C. 1002(1)).

4 “(B) CERTIFICATION OF OTHER PRO-  
5 GRAMS IN CERTAIN LOCALITIES.—In the event  
6 that the Secretary of Labor certifies that a  
7 qualified apprenticeship or other training pro-  
8 gram (as defined in subparagraph (A)) for a  
9 craft or trade classification of workers that a  
10 prospective contractor or subcontractor intends  
11 to employ, is not operated in the locality where  
12 the project will be performed, an apprenticeship  
13 or other training program that is not an em-  
14 ployee welfare benefit plan (as defined in such  
15 section) may be certified by the Secretary as a  
16 qualified apprenticeship or other training pro-  
17 gram provided it is registered with the Office of  
18 Apprenticeship of the Department of Labor, or  
19 a State apprenticeship agency recognized by the  
20 Office of Apprenticeship for Federal purposes

21 “(c) REPORT.—(1) Not later than 150 days after the  
22 end of each fiscal year during which the pilot program  
23 is active, the Secretary of Defense shall submit to Con-  
24 gress a report that includes the following:

1           “(A) The progress of military construction  
2 projects designated pursuant to subsection (b) and  
3 the role of apprentices in achieving that progress.

4           “(B) Any challenges, difficulties, or problems  
5 encountered in recruiting apprentices or in recruit-  
6 ing veterans to become apprentices.

7           “(C) Cost differentials in the designated mili-  
8 tary construction projects when compared with simi-  
9 lar projects completed contemporaneously, but not  
10 designated for the pilot program.

11           “(D) Evaluation of benefits derived from em-  
12 ploying apprentices, including the following:

13                   “(i) Workforce sustainability.

14                   “(ii) Workforce skills enhancement.

15                   “(iii) Increased short and long term cost-  
16 effectiveness.

17                   “(iv) Improved veteran employment in sus-  
18 tainable wage fields.

19           “(E) Any additional benefits derived from em-  
20 ploying apprentices and veteran apprentices.

21           “(F) Recommendations on how to more effec-  
22 tively employ apprentices in subsequent fiscal years.

23           “(G) Any other information the Secretary of  
24 Defense considers appropriate.

1 “(2) Not later than March 1, 2016, the Secretary of  
2 Defense shall submit to Congress a report that—

3 “(A) analyzes the pilot program in terms of its  
4 effect on the sustainability of a workforce to meet  
5 the military construction needs of the Armed Forces;

6 “(B) studies overall improvements in veteran  
7 employment in sustainable wage fields or profes-  
8 sions; and

9 “(C) makes recommendations on the continu-  
10 ation, modification, or expansion of the pilot pro-  
11 gram on the basis of such factors as the Secretary  
12 of Defense determines appropriate, including the fol-  
13 lowing:

14 “(i) Workforce sustainability.

15 “(ii) Cost-effectiveness.

16 “(iii) Community development.

17 “(f) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

18 “(1) The term ‘apprentice’ means an individual  
19 who is employed pursuant to and individually reg-  
20 istered in a ‘qualified apprenticeship or other train-  
21 ing program,’ as defined in subsection (d)(2)(A) or  
22 other apprenticeship or training programs recog-  
23 nized in accordance with subsection (d)(2)(B).

24 “(2) The term ‘State’ means any of the several  
25 States, the District of Columbia, or territories of

1 Guam, Puerto Rico, the Northern Mariana Islands,  
2 and the United States Virgin Islands.

3 “(3) The term ‘veteran’ has the meaning given  
4 such term under section 101(2) of title 38.”

5 (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections  
6 at the beginning of subchapter III of chapter 169 of such  
7 title is amended by inserting after the item relating to sec-  
8 tion 2856 the following new item:

“2857. Veterans to Work pilot program.”

9 **SEC. 15. REPORT ON RECOMMENDATIONS FOR IMPROVE-**  
10 **MENTS TO THE TRANSITION ASSISTANCE**  
11 **PROGRAM TO BETTER MEET THE NEEDS OF**  
12 **MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES AND VET-**  
13 **ERANS.**

14 (a) REPORT REQUIRED.—Not later than 180 days  
15 after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary  
16 of Defense and the Secretary of Labor, acting through the  
17 Assistant Secretary of Labor for Veterans’ Employment  
18 and Training, shall jointly submit to the appropriate com-  
19 mittees of Congress a report setting forth recommenda-  
20 tions for improvements and enhancements of the Transi-  
21 tion Assistance Program (TAP) in order to better meet  
22 the needs of members of the Armed Forces and veterans.

23 (b) ELEMENTS.—The report required by subsection  
24 (a) shall include the following:

1           (1) A description and assessment of the extent  
2           to which the current Transition Assistance Program  
3           meets the needs of members of the Armed Forces  
4           and veterans.

5           (2) Recommendations for improvements and en-  
6           hancements of the Transition Assistance Program in  
7           order to ensure—

8                   (A) the comprehensiveness of the programs  
9                   and activities under the program; and

10                   (B) the consistency of the programs and  
11                   activities under the program across the Armed  
12                   Forces and among the military installations at  
13                   which the program is carried out.

14           (3) Recommendations for improvements and en-  
15           hancements of the Transition Assistance Program to  
16           ensure that the program meets the needs of veterans  
17           residing in localities in the vicinity of military instal-  
18           lations at which the program is carried out.

19           (4) A description and assessment of the pro-  
20           grams and activities offered to veterans who have  
21           completed participation in the Transition Assistance  
22           Program in order to further assist such veterans in  
23           their continuing transition from military life to civil-  
24           ian life; and recommendations for programs and ac-  
25           tivities to improve and enhance such assistance.





1 of carrying out a program of assistance modeled after such  
2 program for all members of reserve components of the  
3 Armed Forces who transition from activity military service  
4 to civilian life.

5 (b) REPORT.—Upon completion of the study required  
6 by subsection (a), the Secretary shall submit to the appro-  
7 priate committees of Congress a report that includes the  
8 following:

9 (1) The findings of the Secretary as a result of  
10 the study.

11 (2) The recommendation of the Secretary as to  
12 the feasibility and advisability of carrying out a pro-  
13 gram of assistance as described in subsection (a).

14 (3) If the Secretary determines that carrying  
15 out a program of assistance as described in sub-  
16 section (a) is feasible and advisable, an estimate of  
17 the cost to implement the program of assistance.

18 (c) APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES OF CONGRESS DE-  
19 FINED.—In this section, the term “appropriate commit-  
20 tees of Congress” means—

21 (1) the Committee on Armed Services, the  
22 Committee on Veterans’ Affairs, and the Committee  
23 on Appropriations of the Senate; and

1           ~~(2) the Committee on Armed Services, the~~  
2           ~~Committee on Veterans' Affairs, and the Committee~~  
3           ~~on Appropriations of the House of Representatives.~~

4 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

5           *This Act may be cited as the “Veteran Employment*  
6 *Assistance Act of 2010”.*

7 **SEC. 2. VETERANS' BUSINESS CENTER PROGRAM.**

8           *(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 32 of the Small Business*  
9 *Act (15 U.S.C. 657b) is amended by striking subsection (f)*  
10 *and inserting the following:*

11           ~~“(f) ONLINE COORDINATION.—~~

12           ~~“(1) DEFINITION.—In this subsection, the term~~  
13 ~~‘veterans’ assistance provider’ means—~~

14           ~~“(A) a veterans’ business center established~~  
15 ~~under subsection (g);~~

16           ~~“(B) an employee of the Administration as-~~  
17 ~~signed to the Office of Veterans Business Devel-~~  
18 ~~opment; and~~

19           ~~“(C) a veterans business ownership rep-~~  
20 ~~resentative designated under subsection~~  
21 ~~(g)(13)(B).~~

22           ~~“(2) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Associate Adminis-~~  
23 ~~trator shall establish an online mechanism to—~~

24           ~~“(A) provide information that assists vet-~~  
25 ~~erans’ assistance providers in carrying out the~~

1           *activities of the veterans’ assistance providers;*  
2           *and*

3           “(B) *coordinate and leverage the work of the*  
4           *veterans’ assistance providers, including by al-*  
5           *lowing a veterans’ assistance provider to—*

6                   “(i) *distribute best practices and other*  
7                   *materials;*

8                   “(ii) *communicate with other veterans’*  
9                   *assistance providers regarding the activities*  
10                  *of the veterans’ assistance provider on behalf*  
11                  *of veterans; and*

12                  “(iii) *pose questions to and request*  
13                  *input from other veterans’ assistance pro-*  
14                  *viders.*

15           “(g) *VETERANS’ BUSINESS CENTER PROGRAM.—*

16                   “(1) *DEFINITIONS.—In this subsection—*

17                           “(A) *the term ‘active duty’ has the meaning*  
18                           *given that term in section 101 of title 10, United*  
19                           *States Code;*

20                           “(B) *the term ‘private nonprofit organiza-*  
21                           *tion’ means an entity that is described in section*  
22                           *501(c) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 and*  
23                           *exempt from taxation under section 501(a) of*  
24                           *such Code;*

1           “(C) the term ‘Reservist’ means a member  
2 of a reserve component of the Armed Forces, as  
3 described in section 10101 of title 10, United  
4 States Code;

5           “(D) the term ‘Service Corps of Retired Ex-  
6 cutives’ means the Service Corps of Retired Ex-  
7 cutives authorized under section 8(b)(1);

8           “(E) the term ‘small business concern  
9 owned and controlled by veterans’—

10           “(i) has the same meaning as in sec-  
11 tion 3(q); and

12           “(ii) includes a small business con-  
13 cern—

14           “(I) not less than 51 percent of  
15 which is owned by one or more spouses  
16 of veterans or, in the case of any pub-  
17 licly owned business, not less than 51  
18 percent of the stock of which is owned  
19 by one or more spouses of veterans; and

20           “(II) the management and daily  
21 business operations of which are con-  
22 trolled by one or more spouses of vet-  
23 erans;

24           “(F) the term ‘spouse’, relating to a veteran,  
25 service-disabled veteran, or Reservist, includes an

1 individual who is the spouse of a veteran, serv-  
2 ice-disabled veteran, or Reservist on the date on  
3 which the veteran, service-disabled veteran, or  
4 Reservist died;

5 “(G) the term ‘veterans’ business center pro-  
6 gram’ means the program established under  
7 paragraph (2)(A); and

8 “(H) the term ‘women’s business center’  
9 means a women’s business center described in  
10 section 29.

11 “(2) PROGRAM ESTABLISHED.—

12 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator, act-  
13 ing through the Associate Administrator, shall  
14 establish a veterans’ business center program,  
15 under which the Associate Administrator may  
16 provide financial assistance to a private non-  
17 profit organization to conduct a 5-year project  
18 for the benefit of small business concerns owned  
19 and controlled by veterans, which may be re-  
20 newed for one or more additional 5-year periods.

21 “(B) FORM OF FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE.—  
22 Financial assistance under this subsection may  
23 be in the form of a grant, a contract, or a coop-  
24 erative agreement.

1           “(3) *VETERANS’ BUSINESS CENTERS.*—*Each pri-*  
2           *vate nonprofit organization that receives financial as-*  
3           *stance under this subsection shall establish or oper-*  
4           *ate a veterans’ business center (which may include es-*  
5           *tablishing or operating satellite offices in the region*  
6           *described in paragraph (5) served by that private*  
7           *nonprofit organization) that provides to veterans (in-*  
8           *cluding service-disabled veterans), Reservists, and the*  
9           *spouses of veterans (including service-disabled vet-*  
10           *erans) and Reservists—*

11                   “(A) *financial advice, including training*  
12                   *and counseling on applying for and securing*  
13                   *business credit and investment capital, pre-*  
14                   *paring and presenting financial statements, and*  
15                   *managing cash flow and other financial oper-*  
16                   *ations of a small business concern;*

17                   “(B) *management advice, including train-*  
18                   *ing and counseling on the planning, organiza-*  
19                   *tion, staffing, direction, and control of each*  
20                   *major activity and function of a small business*  
21                   *concern;*

22                   “(C) *marketing advice, including training*  
23                   *and counseling on identifying and segmenting*  
24                   *domestic and international market opportuni-*  
25                   *ties, preparing and executing marketing plans,*

1           *developing pricing strategies, locating contract*  
2           *opportunities, negotiating contracts, and using*  
3           *public relations and advertising techniques; and*

4           “(D) *advice, including training and coun-*  
5           *seling, for Reservists and the spouses of Reserv-*  
6           *ists.*

7           “(4) *APPLICATION.—*

8           “(A) *IN GENERAL.—A private nonprofit or-*  
9           *ganization desiring to receive financial assist-*  
10           *ance under this subsection shall submit an appli-*  
11           *cation to the Associate Administrator at such*  
12           *time and in such manner as the Associate Ad-*  
13           *ministrator may require.*

14           “(B) *5-YEAR PLAN.—Each application de-*  
15           *scribed in subparagraph (A) shall include a 5-*  
16           *year plan on proposed fundraising and training*  
17           *activities relating to the veterans’ business cen-*  
18           *ter.*

19           “(C) *DETERMINATION AND NOTIFICATION.—*  
20           *Not later than 60 days after the date on which*  
21           *a private nonprofit organization submits an ap-*  
22           *plication under subparagraph (A), the Associate*  
23           *Administrator shall approve or deny the appli-*  
24           *cation and notify the applicant of the determina-*  
25           *tion.*



1           “(D) *AVAILABILITY OF APPLICATION.*—*The*  
2           *Associate Administrator shall make every effort*  
3           *to make the application under subparagraph (A)*  
4           *available online.*

5           “(5) *ELIGIBILITY.*—*The Associate Administrator*  
6           *may select to receive financial assistance under this*  
7           *subsection—*

8           “(A) *a Veterans Business Outreach Center*  
9           *established by the Administrator under section*  
10           *8(b)(17) on or before the day before the date of*  
11           *enactment of this subsection; or*

12           “(B) *private nonprofit organizations located*  
13           *in various regions of the United States, as the*  
14           *Associate Administrator determines is appro-*  
15           *priate.*

16           “(6) *SELECTION CRITERIA.*—

17           “(A) *IN GENERAL.*—*The Associate Adminis-*  
18           *trator shall establish selection criteria, stated in*  
19           *terms of relative importance, to evaluate and*  
20           *rank applicants under paragraph (5)(C) for fi-*  
21           *nancial assistance under this subsection.*

22           “(B) *CRITERIA.*—*The selection criteria es-*  
23           *tablished under this paragraph shall include—*

24           “(i) *the experience of the applicant in*  
25           *conducting programs or ongoing efforts de-*

1           *signed to impart or upgrade the business*  
2           *skills of veterans, and the spouses of vet-*  
3           *erans, who own or may own small business*  
4           *concerns;*

5           *“(ii) for an applicant for initial finan-*  
6           *cial assistance under this subsection—*

7                   *“(I) the ability of the applicant to*  
8                   *begin operating a veterans’ business*  
9                   *center within a minimum amount of*  
10                  *time; and*

11                  *“(II) the geographic region to be*  
12                  *served by the veterans’ business center;*

13           *“(iii) the demonstrated ability of the*  
14           *applicant to—*

15                   *“(I) provide managerial coun-*  
16                   *seling and technical assistance to en-*  
17                   *trepreneurs; and*

18                   *“(II) coordinate services provided*  
19                   *by veterans services organizations and*  
20                   *other public or private entities; and*

21           *“(iv) for any applicant for a renewal*  
22           *of financial assistance under this sub-*  
23           *section, the results of the most recent exam-*  
24           *ination under paragraph (10) of the vet-*

1                    *erans' business center operated by the appli-*  
2                    *cant.*

3                    *“(C) CRITERIA PUBLICLY AVAILABLE.—The*  
4                    *Associate Administrator shall—*

5                    *“(i) make publicly available the selec-*  
6                    *tion criteria established under this para-*  
7                    *graph; and*

8                    *“(ii) include the criteria in each solici-*  
9                    *tation for applications for financial assist-*  
10                    *ance under this subsection.*

11                    *“(7) AMOUNT OF ASSISTANCE.—The amount of*  
12                    *financial assistance provided under this subsection to*  
13                    *a private nonprofit organization for each fiscal year*  
14                    *shall be—*

15                    *“(A) not less than \$150,000; and*

16                    *“(B) not more than \$200,000.*

17                    *“(8) FEDERAL SHARE.—*

18                    *“(A) IN GENERAL.—*

19                    *“(i) INITIAL FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE.—*  
20                    *Except as provided in clause (ii) and sub-*  
21                    *paragraph (E), a private nonprofit organi-*  
22                    *zation that receives financial assistance*  
23                    *under this subsection shall provide non-Fed-*  
24                    *eral contributions for the operation of the*  
25                    *veterans' business center established by the*

1           *private nonprofit organization in an*  
2           *amount equal to—*

3                   “(I) *in each of the first and sec-*  
4                   *ond years of the project, not less than*  
5                   *33 percent of the amount of the finan-*  
6                   *cial assistance received under this sub-*  
7                   *section; and*

8                   “(II) *in each of the third through*  
9                   *fifth years of the project, not less than*  
10                   *50 percent of the amount of the finan-*  
11                   *cial assistance received under this sub-*  
12                   *section.*

13                   “(ii) *RENEWALS.—A private nonprofit*  
14                   *organization that receives a renewal of fi-*  
15                   *nancial assistance under this subsection*  
16                   *shall provide non-Federal contributions for*  
17                   *the operation of the veterans’ business center*  
18                   *established by the private nonprofit organi-*  
19                   *zation in an amount equal to not less than*  
20                   *50 percent of the amount of the financial*  
21                   *assistance received under this subsection.*

22                   “(B) *FORM OF NON-FEDERAL SHARE.—Not*  
23                   *more than 50 percent of the non-Federal share*  
24                   *for a project carried out using financial assist-*

1           *ance under this subsection may be in the form*  
2           *of in-kind contributions.*

3           “(C) *TIMING OF DISBURSEMENT.*—*The As-*  
4           *sociate Administrator may disburse not more*  
5           *than 25 percent of the financial assistance*  
6           *awarded to a private nonprofit organization be-*  
7           *fore the private nonprofit organization obtains*  
8           *the non-Federal share required under this para-*  
9           *graph with respect to that award.*

10           “(D) *FAILURE TO OBTAIN NON-FEDERAL*  
11           *FUNDING.*—

12           “(i) *IN GENERAL.*—*If a private non-*  
13           *profit organization that receives financial*  
14           *assistance under this subsection fails to ob-*  
15           *tain the non-Federal share required under*  
16           *this paragraph during any fiscal year, the*  
17           *private nonprofit organization may not re-*  
18           *ceive a disbursement under this subsection*  
19           *in a subsequent fiscal year or a disburse-*  
20           *ment for any other project funded by the*  
21           *Administration, unless the Administrator*  
22           *makes a written determination that the pri-*  
23           *vate nonprofit organization will be able to*  
24           *obtain a non-Federal contribution.*

1           “(i) *RESTORATION.*—A private non-  
2           *profit organization prohibited from receiv-*  
3           *ing a disbursement under clause (i) in a*  
4           *fiscal year may receive financial assistance*  
5           *in a subsequent fiscal year if the organiza-*  
6           *tion obtains the non-Federal share required*  
7           *under this paragraph for the subsequent fis-*  
8           *cal year.*

9           “(E) *WAIVER OF NON-FEDERAL SHARE.*—

10           “(i) *IN GENERAL.*—Upon request by a  
11           *private nonprofit organization, and in ac-*  
12           *cordance with this subparagraph, the Ad-*  
13           *ministrator may waive, in whole or in part,*  
14           *the requirement to obtain non-Federal funds*  
15           *under subparagraph (A) for a fiscal year.*  
16           *The Administrator may not waive the re-*  
17           *quirement for a private nonprofit organiza-*  
18           *tion to obtain non-Federal funds under this*  
19           *subparagraph for more than a total of 2 fis-*  
20           *cal years.*

21           “(ii) *CONSIDERATIONS.*—In deter-  
22           *mining whether to waive the requirement to*  
23           *obtain non-Federal funds under this sub-*  
24           *paragraph, the Administrator shall con-*  
25           *sider—*

1                   “(I) *the economic conditions af-*  
2                   *fecting the private nonprofit organiza-*  
3                   *tion;*

4                   “(II) *the impact a waiver under*  
5                   *this subparagraph would have on the*  
6                   *credibility of the veterans’ business*  
7                   *center program;*

8                   “(III) *the demonstrated ability of*  
9                   *the private nonprofit organization to*  
10                  *raise non-Federal funds; and*

11                  “(IV) *the performance of the pri-*  
12                  *vate nonprofit organization.*

13                  “(iii) *LIMITATION.—The Adminis-*  
14                  *trator may not waive the requirement to ob-*  
15                  *tain non-Federal funds under this subpara-*  
16                  *graph if granting the waiver would under-*  
17                  *mine the credibility of the veterans’ business*  
18                  *center program.*

19                  “(9) *CONTRACT AUTHORITY.—A veterans’ busi-*  
20                  *ness center may enter into a contract with a Federal*  
21                  *department or agency to provide specific assistance to*  
22                  *veterans, service-disabled veterans, Reservists, or the*  
23                  *spouses of veterans, service-disabled veterans, or Re-*  
24                  *servists. Performance of such contract shall not hinder*  
25                  *the veterans’ business center in carrying out the terms*

1       *of the grant received by the veterans' business centers*  
2       *from the Administrator.*

3               “(10) *EXAMINATION AND DETERMINATION OF VI-*  
4       *ABILITY.—*

5                       “(A) *EXAMINATION.—*

6                               “(i) *IN GENERAL.—The Associate Ad-*  
7                               *ministrator shall conduct an annual exam-*  
8                               *ination of the programs and finances of*  
9                               *each veterans' business center established or*  
10                              *operated using financial assistance under*  
11                              *this subsection.*

12                             “(ii) *FACTORS.—In conducting the ex-*  
13                             *amination under clause (i), the Associate*  
14                             *Administrator shall consider whether the*  
15                             *veterans' business center has failed—*

16                               “(I) *to provide the information*  
17                               *required to be provided under subpara-*  
18                               *graph (B), or the information provided*  
19                               *by the center is inadequate;*

20                               “(II) *the center has failed to com-*  
21                               *ply with a requirement for participa-*  
22                               *tion in the veterans' business center*  
23                               *program, as determined by the Assist-*  
24                               *ant Administrator, including—*



1                   “(aa) failure to acquire or  
2 properly document a non-Federal  
3 share;

4                   “(bb) failure to establish an  
5 appropriate partnership or pro-  
6 gram for marketing and outreach  
7 to small business concerns;

8                   “(cc) failure to achieve re-  
9 sults described in a financial as-  
10 sistance agreement; and

11                   “(dd) failure to provide to  
12 the Administrator a description of  
13 the amount and sources of any  
14 non-Federal funding received by  
15 the center;

16                   “(III) to carry out the 5-year  
17 plan under in paragraph (4)(B); or

18                   “(IV) to meet the eligibility re-  
19 quirements under paragraph (5).

20                   “(B) INFORMATION PROVIDED.—In the  
21 course of an examination under subparagraph  
22 (A), the veterans’ business center shall provide to  
23 the Associate Administrator—

1           “(i) an itemized cost breakdown of ac-  
2           tual expenditures for costs incurred during  
3           the most recent full fiscal year;

4           “(ii) documentation of the amount of  
5           non-Federal contributions obtained and ex-  
6           pended by the veterans’ business center dur-  
7           ing the most recent full fiscal year; and

8           “(iii) with respect to any in-kind con-  
9           tribution under paragraph (8)(B),  
10          verification of the existence and valuation of  
11          such contributions.

12          “(C) DETERMINATION OF VIABILITY.—The  
13          Associate Administrator shall analyze the results  
14          of each examination under this paragraph and,  
15          based on that analysis, make a determination re-  
16          garding the viability of the programs and fi-  
17          nances of each veterans’ business center.

18          “(D) DISCONTINUATION OF FUNDING.—

19                 “(i) IN GENERAL.—The Associate Ad-  
20                 ministrators may discontinue an award of  
21                 financial assistance to a private nonprofit  
22                 organization at any time if the Associate  
23                 Administrator determines under subpara-  
24                 graph (C) that the veterans’ business center  
25                 operated by that organization is not viable.

1                   “(i) *RESTORATION.*—*The Associate*  
2                   *Administrator may continue to provide fi-*  
3                   *nancial assistance to a private nonprofit or-*  
4                   *ganization in a subsequent fiscal year if the*  
5                   *Associate Administrator determines under*  
6                   *subparagraph (C) that the veterans’ busi-*  
7                   *ness center is viable.*

8                   “(11) *PRIVACY REQUIREMENTS.*—

9                   “(A) *IN GENERAL.*—*Except as provided in*  
10                   *subparagraph (B), a veterans’ business center es-*  
11                   *tablished or operated using financial assistance*  
12                   *provided under this subsection may not disclose*  
13                   *the name, address, or telephone number of any*  
14                   *individual or small business concern that re-*  
15                   *ceives advice from the veterans’ business center*  
16                   *without the consent of the individual or small*  
17                   *business concern.*

18                   “(B) *EXCEPTION.*—*A veterans’ business cen-*  
19                   *ter may disclose information described in sub-*  
20                   *paragraph (A)—*

21                   “(i) *if the Administrator or Associate*  
22                   *Administrator is ordered to make such a*  
23                   *disclosure by a court in any civil or crimi-*  
24                   *nal enforcement action initiated by a Fed-*  
25                   *eral or State agency; or*

1           “(i) to the extent that the Adminis-  
2           trator or Associate Administrator deter-  
3           mines that such a disclosure is necessary to  
4           conduct a financial audit of a veterans’  
5           business center.

6           “(C) ADMINISTRATION USE OF INFORMA-  
7           TION.—This paragraph does not—

8           “(i) restrict access by the Adminis-  
9           trator to program activity data; or

10           “(ii) prevent the Administrator from  
11           using information not described in subpara-  
12           graph (A) to conduct surveys of individuals  
13           or small business concerns that receive ad-  
14           vice from a veterans’ business center.

15           “(D) REGULATIONS.—The Administrator  
16           shall issue regulations to establish standards for  
17           requiring disclosures under subparagraph  
18           (B)(ii).

19           “(12) REPORT.—

20           “(A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 60 days  
21           after the end of each fiscal year, the Associate  
22           Administrator shall submit to the Committee on  
23           Small Business and Entrepreneurship of the  
24           Senate and the Committee on Small Business of  
25           the House of Representatives a report on the ef-

1       *fectiveness of the veterans' business center pro-*  
2       *gram in each region during the most recent full*  
3       *fiscal year.*

4               “(B) CONTENTS.—Each report under this  
5       *paragraph shall include, at a minimum, for each*  
6       *veterans' business center established or operated*  
7       *using financial assistance provided under this*  
8       *subsection—*

9                       “(i) the number of individuals receiv-  
10       *ing assistance from the veterans' business*  
11       *center, including the number of such indi-*  
12       *viduals who are—*

13                               “(I) veterans or spouses of vet-  
14       *erans;*

15                               “(II) service-disabled veterans or  
16       *spouses of service-disabled veterans; or*

17                               “(III) Reservists or spouses of Re-  
18       *servists;*

19                       “(ii) the number of startup small busi-  
20       *ness concerns formed by individuals receiv-*  
21       *ing assistance from the veterans' business*  
22       *center, including—*

23                               “(I) veterans or spouses of vet-  
24       *erans;*

1                   “(II) *service-disabled veterans or*  
2                   *spouses of service-disabled veterans; or*

3                   “(III) *Reservists or spouses of Re-*  
4                   *servists;*

5                   “(iii) *the gross receipts of small busi-*  
6                   *ness concerns that receive advice from the*  
7                   *veterans’ business center;*

8                   “(iv) *the employment increases or de-*  
9                   *creases of small business concerns that re-*  
10                  *ceive advice from the veterans’ business cen-*  
11                  *ter;*

12                  “(v) *to the maximum extent prac-*  
13                  *ticable, the increases or decreases in profits*  
14                  *of small business concerns that receive ad-*  
15                  *vice from the veterans’ business center; and*

16                  “(vi) *the results of the examination of*  
17                  *the veterans’ business center under para-*  
18                  *graph (10).*

19                  “(13) *COORDINATION OF EFFORTS AND CON-*  
20                  *SULTATION.—*

21                  “(A) *COORDINATION AND CONSULTATION.—*

22                  *To the extent practicable, the Associate Adminis-*  
23                  *trator and each private nonprofit organization*  
24                  *that receives financial assistance under this sub-*  
25                  *section shall—*

1           “(i) coordinate outreach and other ac-  
2           tivities with other programs of the Adminis-  
3           tration and the programs of other Federal  
4           agencies;

5           “(ii) consult with technical representa-  
6           tives of the district offices of the Adminis-  
7           tration in carrying out activities using fi-  
8           nancial assistance under this subsection;  
9           and

10          “(iii) provide information to the vet-  
11          erans business ownership representatives  
12          designated under subparagraph (B) and co-  
13          ordinate with the veterans business owner-  
14          ship representatives to increase the ability  
15          of the veterans business ownership rep-  
16          resentatives to provide services throughout  
17          the area served by the veterans business  
18          ownership representatives.

19          “(B) *VETERANS BUSINESS OWNERSHIP REP-*  
20          *RESENTATIVES.—*

21          “(i) *DESIGNATION.—*The Adminis-  
22          trator shall designate not fewer than 1 indi-  
23          vidual in each district office of the Admin-  
24          istration as a veterans business ownership  
25          representative, who shall communicate and

1           *coordinate activities of the district office*  
 2           *with private nonprofit organizations that*  
 3           *receive financial assistance under this sub-*  
 4           *section.*

5           “(i) *INITIAL DESIGNATION.*—*The first*  
 6           *individual in each district office of the Ad-*  
 7           *ministration designated by the Adminis-*  
 8           *trator as a veterans business ownership rep-*  
 9           *resentative under clause (i) shall be an in-*  
 10          *dividual that is employed by the Adminis-*  
 11          *tration on the date of enactment of this sub-*  
 12          *section.*

13          “(14) *EXISTING CONTRACTS.*—*An award of fi-*  
 14          *nancial assistance under this subsection shall not void*  
 15          *any contract between a private nonprofit organiza-*  
 16          *tion and the Administration that is in effect on the*  
 17          *date of such award.*

18          “(h) *AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.*—*There*  
 19          *are authorized to be appropriated—*

20                 “(1) *to carry out subsections (a) through (f),*  
 21                 *\$2,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2011 through 2013;*  
 22                 *and*

23                 “(2) *to carry out subsection (g)—*

24                         “(A) *\$8,000,000 for fiscal year 2011;*

25                         “(B) *\$8,500,000 for fiscal year 2012; and*



1                   “(C) \$9,000,000 for fiscal year 2013.”.

2           (b) *GAO REPORTS.*—

3               (1) *DEFINITIONS.*—*In this subsection—*

4                   (A) *the terms “small business concern” and*  
5                   *“veteran” have the meanings given those terms*  
6                   *under section 3 of the Small Business Act (15*  
7                   *U.S.C. 632); and*

8                   (B) *the terms “Reservist”, “small business*  
9                   *concern owned and controlled by veterans”, and*  
10                  *“veterans’ business center program” have the*  
11                  *meanings given those terms in section 32(g) of*  
12                  *the Small Business Act, as added by this section.*

13              (2) *REPORT ON ACCESS TO CREDIT.*—

14                   (A) *IN GENERAL.*—*Not later than 180 days*  
15                   *after the date of enactment of this Act, the*  
16                   *Comptroller General of the United States shall*  
17                   *submit a report regarding the ability of small*  
18                   *business concern owned and controlled by vet-*  
19                   *erans to access credit to—*

20                           (i) *the Committee on Veterans’ Affairs*  
21                           *and the Committee on Small Business and*  
22                           *Entrepreneurship of the Senate; and*

23                           (ii) *the Committee on Veterans’ Affairs*  
24                           *and the Committee on Small Business of the*  
25                           *House of Representatives.*

1           (B) *CONTENTS.*—*The report submitted*  
2           *under subparagraph (A) shall include an anal-*  
3           *ysis of—*

4                   (i) *the sources of credit used by small*  
5                   *business concerns owned and controlled by*  
6                   *veterans and percentage of the credit ob-*  
7                   *tained by small business concern owned and*  
8                   *controlled by veterans that is obtained from*  
9                   *each source;*

10                   (ii) *the default rate for small business*  
11                   *concerns owned and controlled by veterans*  
12                   *separately for each source of credit described*  
13                   *in clause (i), as compared to the default*  
14                   *rate for the source of credit for small busi-*  
15                   *ness concerns generally;*

16                   (iii) *the Federal lending programs*  
17                   *available to provide credit to small business*  
18                   *concerns owned and controlled by veterans;*

19                   (iv) *gaps, if any, in the availability of*  
20                   *credit for small business concerns owned*  
21                   *and controlled by veterans that are not*  
22                   *being filled by the Federal Government or*  
23                   *private sources;*

24                   (v) *obstacles faced by veterans in try-*  
25                   *ing to access credit;*

1           (vi) the extent to which deployment  
2           and other military responsibilities affect the  
3           credit history of veterans and Reservists;  
4           and

5           (vii) the extent to which veterans are  
6           aware of Federal programs targeted towards  
7           helping veterans access credit.

8           (3) *REPORT ON VETERANS' BUSINESS CENTER*  
9           *PROGRAM.*—

10           (A) *IN GENERAL.*—Not later than 60 days  
11           after the end of the second fiscal year beginning  
12           after the date on which the veterans' business  
13           center program is established, the Comptroller  
14           General of the United States shall evaluate the  
15           effectiveness of the veterans' business center pro-  
16           gram, and submit to Congress a report on the re-  
17           sults of that evaluation.

18           (B) *CONTENTS.*—The report submitted  
19           under subparagraph (A) shall include—

20           (i) an assessment of—

21                   (I) the use of amounts made  
22                   available to carry out the veterans'  
23                   business center program;

24                   (II) the effectiveness of the services  
25                   provided by each private nonprofit or-

1            *ganization receiving financial assist-*  
2            *ance under the veterans' business cen-*  
3            *ter program;*

4            *(III) whether the services de-*  
5            *scribed in clause (i) are duplicative of*  
6            *services provided by other veteran serv-*  
7            *ice organizations, programs of the*  
8            *Small Business Administration, or*  
9            *programs of another Federal depart-*  
10           *ment or agency and, if so, rec-*  
11           *ommendations regarding how to allevi-*  
12           *ate the duplication of the services; and*

13           *(IV) whether there are areas of the*  
14           *United States in which there are not*  
15           *adequate entrepreneurial services for*  
16           *small business concerns owned and*  
17           *controlled by veterans and, if so,*  
18           *whether there is a veterans' business*  
19           *center established under the veterans'*  
20           *business center program providing*  
21           *services to that area; and*

22           *(ii) recommendations, if any, for im-*  
23           *proving the veterans' business center pro-*  
24           *gram.*

1 **SEC. 3. REPORTING REQUIREMENT FOR INTERAGENCY**  
2 **TASK FORCE ON SMALL BUSINESSES OWNED**  
3 **AND CONTROLLED BY DISABLED VETERANS.**

4 *Section 32(c) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C.*  
5 *657b(c)) is amended by adding at the end the following:*

6 *“(4) REPORT.—Not less frequently than twice*  
7 *each year, the Administrator shall submit to Congress*  
8 *a report on the appointments made to and activities*  
9 *of the task force.”.*

10 **SEC. 4. REPEAL OF AUTHORITY TO AWARD NEW GRANTS**  
11 **AND RENEWAL OF PREVIOUSLY AWARDED**  
12 **GRANTS FOR OUTREACH PROGRAMS FOR**  
13 **VETERANS.**

14 *(a) DEFINITION.—In this section, the term “covered*  
15 *grant, contract, or cooperative agreement” means a grant,*  
16 *contract, or cooperative agreement that was—*

17 *(1) made or entered into under section 8(b)(17)*  
18 *of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 637(b)(17)); and*

19 *(2) in effect on or before the date described in*  
20 *subsection (b)(2).*

21 *(b) REPEAL.—*

22 *(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 8(b) of the Small*  
23 *Business Act (15 U.S.C. 637(b)) is amended—*

24 *(A) in paragraph (15), by adding “and” at*  
25 *the end;*

1           (B) in paragraph (16), by striking “; and”  
2           and inserting a period; and

3           (C) by striking paragraph (17).

4           (2) *EFFECTIVE DATE.*—The amendments made  
5           by paragraph (1) shall take effect 60 days after the  
6           date of enactment of this Act.

7           (c) *TRANSITIONAL RULES.*—

8           (1) *IN GENERAL.*—Notwithstanding any other  
9           provision of law, a covered grant, contract, or cooper-  
10          ative agreement shall remain in full force and effect  
11          under the terms, and for the duration, of the covered  
12          grant, contract, or agreement.

13          (2) *ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS.*—Any organi-  
14          zation that was awarded or entered into a covered  
15          grant, contract, or cooperative agreement shall be sub-  
16          ject to the requirements of section 32(g) of the Small  
17          Business Act (15 U.S.C. 657b(g)) (as added by this  
18          Act).

19          (d) *RENEWAL OF FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE.*—An orga-  
20          nization that was awarded or entered into a covered grant,  
21          contract, or cooperative agreement may apply for a renewal  
22          of the grant, contract, or agreement under the terms and  
23          conditions described in section 32(g) of the Small Business  
24          Act (15 U.S.C. 657b(g)) (as added by this Act).

1 **SEC. 5. MILITARY PATHWAYS DEMONSTRATION PROGRAMS.**

2 (a) *INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY MILITARY PATHWAYS*  
3 *DEMONSTRATION PROGRAM.*—

4 (1) *IN GENERAL.*—*The Secretary of Labor, act-*  
5 *ing through the Assistant Secretary for Veterans' Em-*  
6 *ployment and Training, after consultation with the*  
7 *Secretary of Veterans Affairs and the Secretary of De-*  
8 *fense, shall establish a demonstration program and*  
9 *carry out the program by making grants, on a com-*  
10 *petitive basis, to not more than 5 entities for dem-*  
11 *onstration projects. The projects shall be designed to*  
12 *test the feasibility of methods of enabling*  
13 *transitioning military members to build on the tech-*  
14 *nical skills learned in many military jobs, to enter*  
15 *the information technology workforce or continue*  
16 *their skills development in the information technology*  
17 *disciplines to meet the demand for information tech-*  
18 *nology workforce readiness in computer specialist and*  
19 *related information technology jobs.*

20 (2) *ISSUES TO BE EXAMINED.*—*In carrying out*  
21 *the program, the Secretary may examine the feasi-*  
22 *bility of methods such as the following:*

23 (A) *Methods to improve the transitions,*  
24 *skills development, and employment of*  
25 *transitioning military members for and in infor-*

1            *mation technology occupations with wages suffi-*  
2            *cient to support families.*

3            *(B) Methods to align the information tech-*  
4            *nology skills acquired in military occupations*  
5            *with skills required in civilian information tech-*  
6            *nology occupations in new, emerging, or viable*  
7            *industries, including aligning the skills—*

8                    *(i) using guidelines for assessments*  
9                    *and credentials that employers value in the*  
10                   *hiring process, and credentials that are in-*  
11                   *dustry-recognized and approved by the Sec-*  
12                   *retary; and*

13                   *(ii) by means that may include the use*  
14                   *of a modified or enhanced Department of*  
15                   *Defense transition program or a Depart-*  
16                   *ment of Labor transition program, such as*  
17                   *the program carried out under chapter 41 of*  
18                   *title 38, United States Code.*

19            *(C) Methods to ensure that military mem-*  
20            *bers receive education and training, including*  
21            *training through apprenticeship programs, and*  
22            *necessary support services, that are flexible,*  
23            *available (including available for deployed mili-*  
24            *tary members), adequate for individuals seeking*  
25            *to make the transition to civilian information*



1           *technology occupations, and consistent with aca-*  
2           *ademic requirements of the institution involved.*

3           *(D) Methods to enable military members to*  
4           *accelerate application for admission, acceptance,*  
5           *and graduation as students in computer science,*  
6           *engineering, and related disciplines at 2-year*  
7           *and 4-year institutions of higher education,*  
8           *based on military credentials and experience.*

9           *(E) Methods to help military members ob-*  
10          *tain information technology credentials that are*  
11          *industry-recognized, are approved by the Sec-*  
12          *retary, and satisfy both military requirements*  
13          *and civilian requirements, prior to release of the*  
14          *members from the military.*

15          (3) *ELIGIBILITY.—To be eligible to receive a*  
16          *grant under this subsection, an entity shall submit an*  
17          *application to the Secretary at such time, in such*  
18          *manner, and containing such information as the Sec-*  
19          *retary may require, including each of the following:*

20                 *(A) An assurance that the entity agrees*  
21                 *that, in carrying out the project, the entity will*  
22                 *work in conjunction with a local board and enter*  
23                 *into a partnership that includes, as principal*  
24                 *partners, employers, labor organizations, postsec-*  
25                 *ondary education institutions including institu-*

1            *tions of higher education, veterans service orga-*  
2            *nizations, and other community organizations.*

3            *(B) Information—*

4                    *(i) demonstrating the capability of the*  
5                    *entity in working with transitioning mili-*  
6                    *tary members;*

7                    *(ii) demonstrating that the entity has*  
8                    *a history of effective collaboration with—*

9                            *(I) the information technology in-*  
10                           *dustry or an industry with significant*  
11                           *information technology jobs;*

12                           *(II) State boards or local boards,*  
13                           *as appropriate; and*

14                           *(III) institutions of higher edu-*  
15                           *cation and other information tech-*  
16                           *nology educators or trainers; and*

17                           *(iii) demonstrating knowledge of train-*  
18                           *ing and best practices of the information*  
19                           *technology industry.*

20            *(C) An assurance that the entity will par-*  
21            *ticipate in the Secretary's evaluation plan for*  
22            *the demonstration program, including partici-*  
23            *pating in required reporting for the plan.*

24            *(4) SELECTION CRITERIA.—In order to select en-*  
25            *tities to receive grants for projects under this sub-*

1        *section, the Secretary shall establish selection criteria*  
2        *consistent with this subsection and shall ensure that*  
3        *the criteria give priority to each of the following types*  
4        *of entities:*

5                *(A) Entities that demonstrate the ability to*  
6                *leverage public or private funds to sustain such*  
7                *a project after the grant period.*

8                *(B) Entities that have relationships with*  
9                *institutions of higher education or with qualified*  
10               *community-based organizations that provide*  
11               *training.*

12               *(C) Entities that have relationships with*  
13               *employers, labor organizations, and other entities*  
14               *that will provide earn and learn opportunities to*  
15               *veterans.*

16               *(D) Entities that have experience working*  
17               *with veterans and facilitating transitions from*  
18               *military to civilian work environments.*

19               *(E) Entities that have experience designing*  
20               *contextualized learning programs that integrate*  
21               *basic adult education with skills training.*

22               *(5) PROGRAM EVALUATION AND TECHNICAL AS-*  
23               *SISTANCE.—Using not more than 10 percent of the*  
24               *amount made available to carry out this subsection,*  
25               *the Secretary may—*

1           (A) conduct an evaluation to determine  
2           promising methods of increasing the number of  
3           highly skilled transitioning military members  
4           who enter civilian information technology occu-  
5           pations and earn wages sufficient to support  
6           families; and

7           (B) provide technical assistance to entities  
8           receiving grants under this subsection, relating  
9           to the promising methods.

10          (6) *DEFINITION.*—In this subsection, the term  
11          “information technology” means any equipment or  
12          interconnected system or subsystem of equipment—

13               (A) used in the automatic acquisition, stor-  
14               age, analysis, evaluation, manipulation, man-  
15               agement, movement, control, display, switching,  
16               interchange, transmission, or reception of data  
17               or information; and

18               (B) includes the following:

19                   (i) Computers.

20                   (ii) Ancillary equipment for computers  
21                   (including imaging peripherals, and input,  
22                   output, and storage devices necessary for se-  
23                   curity and surveillance).

1                   (iii) *Peripheral equipment designed to*  
2                   *be controlled by the central processing unit*  
3                   *of a computer.*

4                   (iv) *Software.*

5                   (v) *Computer services (including sup-*  
6                   *port services).*

7                   (vi) *Other computer-related resources.*

8                   (7) *AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—*

9                   *There is authorized to be appropriated to carry out*  
10                  *this subsection \$4,000,000 for each of fiscal years*  
11                  *2011 through 2013.*

12                  (b) *NURSING, PUBLIC HEALTH AND ALLIED HEALTH*  
13                  *PROFESSIONAL, AND PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT MILITARY*  
14                  *PATHWAYS DEMONSTRATION PROGRAM.—*

15                   (1) *IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Labor, act-*  
16                   *ing through the Assistant Secretary for Veterans' Em-*  
17                   *ployment and Training, after consultation with the*  
18                   *Secretary of Veterans Affairs, Secretary of Defense,*  
19                   *and Secretary of Health and Human Services, shall*  
20                   *establish a demonstration program and carry out the*  
21                   *program by making grants, on a competitive basis, to*  
22                   *not more than 5 entities for demonstration projects.*  
23                   *The projects shall be designed to test the feasibility of*  
24                   *methods of enabling transitioning military members*  
25                   *to build on the technical skills learned in many mili-*

1        *tary jobs, to enter the nursing, public health and al-*  
2        *lied health professional, and physician assistant*  
3        *workforces or continue their skills development in dis-*  
4        *ciplines related to those workforces to meet the de-*  
5        *mand for nurses, public health and allied health pro-*  
6        *essionals, and physician assistants.*

7                (2) *ISSUES TO BE EXAMINED.—In carrying out*  
8        *the program, the Secretary may examine the feasi-*  
9        *bility of methods such as the following:*

10                (A) *Methods to improve the transitions,*  
11                *skills development, and employment of*  
12                *transitioning military members for and in nurs-*  
13                *ing, public health and allied health professional,*  
14                *and physician assistant occupations with wages*  
15                *sufficient to support families.*

16                (B) *Methods to align nursing, public health*  
17                *and allied health professional, and physician as-*  
18                *istant skills acquired in military occupations*  
19                *with skills required in related civilian health oc-*  
20                *cupations, including aligning the skills—*

21                        (i) *using guidelines for assessments*  
22                        *and credentials that employers value in the*  
23                        *hiring process, and credentials that are in-*  
24                        *dustry-recognized and approved by the Sec-*  
25                        *retary; and*

1           (ii) by means that may include the use  
2           of a modified or enhanced Department of  
3           Defense transition program or a Depart-  
4           ment of Labor transition program, such as  
5           the program carried out under chapter 41 of  
6           title 38, United States Code.

7           (C) Methods to ensure that military mem-  
8           bers receive education and training, including  
9           training through apprenticeship programs, and  
10          necessary support services, that are flexible,  
11          available (including available for deployed mili-  
12          tary members), adequate for individuals seeking  
13          to make the transition to civilian nursing, public  
14          health and allied health, and physician assistant  
15          occupations, and consistent with academic re-  
16          quirements of the institution involved.

17          (D) Methods to align education and train-  
18          ing programs, including apprenticeship pro-  
19          grams, for veterans in nursing, public health and  
20          allied health professional, and physician assist-  
21          ant occupations with education and training  
22          programs for those occupations that are provided  
23          for the public.

24          (E) Methods to enable military members to  
25          accelerate application for admission, acceptance,

1           *and graduation as students in nursing, public*  
2           *health and allied health, and physician assistant*  
3           *disciplines at 2-year and 4-year institutions of*  
4           *higher education, based on military credentials*  
5           *and experience.*

6           *(F) Methods to help military members ob-*  
7           *tain credentials related to those health care occu-*  
8           *pations that are industry-recognized, are ap-*  
9           *proved by the Secretary, and satisfy both mili-*  
10          *tary requirements and civilian requirements,*  
11          *prior to release of the members from the mili-*  
12          *tary.*

13          (3) *ELIGIBILITY.—To be eligible to receive a*  
14          *grant under this subsection, an entity shall submit an*  
15          *application to the Secretary at such time, in such*  
16          *manner, and containing such information as the Sec-*  
17          *retary may require including each of the following:*

18                 *(A) An assurance that the entity agrees*  
19                 *that, in carrying out the project, the entity will*  
20                 *work in conjunction with a local board and enter*  
21                 *into a partnership that includes, as principal*  
22                 *partners, employers, labor organizations, postsec-*  
23                 *ondary education institutions including institu-*  
24                 *tions of higher education, veterans service orga-*  
25                 *nizations, and other community organizations.*



1           (B) *Information—*

2                 (i) *in demonstrating the capability of*  
3                 *the entity in working with transitioning*  
4                 *military members;*

5                 (ii) *demonstrating that the entity has*  
6                 *a history of effective collaboration with—*

7                         (I) *health care employers;*

8                         (II) *State boards or local boards,*  
9                         *as appropriate; and*

10                        (III) *institutions of higher edu-*  
11                        *cation and other nursing, public health*  
12                        *and allied health professional, and*  
13                        *physician assistant educators or train-*  
14                        *ers; and*

15                        (iii) *demonstrating knowledge of train-*  
16                        *ing and best practices of the health care in-*  
17                        *dustry.*

18                 (C) *An assurance that the entity will par-*  
19                 *ticipate in the Secretary's evaluation plan for*  
20                 *the demonstration program, including partici-*  
21                 *pating in required reporting for the plan.*

22                 (4) *SELECTION CRITERIA.—In order to select en-*  
23                 *tities to receive grants for projects under this sub-*  
24                 *section, the Secretary shall establish selection criteria*  
25                 *consistent with this subsection and shall ensure that*

1 *the criteria give priority to entities that demonstrate*  
2 *the ability to leverage of public or private funds to*  
3 *sustain such a project after the grant period.*

4 (5) *PROGRAM EVALUATION AND TECHNICAL AS-*  
5 *SISTANCE.—Using not more than 10 percent of the*  
6 *amount made available to carry out this subsection,*  
7 *the Secretary may—*

8 (A) *conduct an evaluation to determine*  
9 *promising methods of increasing the number of*  
10 *highly skilled transitioning military members*  
11 *who enter civilian nursing, public health and al-*  
12 *lied health, or physician assistant occupations*  
13 *and earn wages sufficient to support families;*  
14 *and*

15 (B) *provide technical assistance to entities*  
16 *receiving grants under this subsection, relating*  
17 *to the promising methods.*

18 (6) *DEFINITION.—In this subsection, the term*  
19 *“allied health professional” means a health profes-*  
20 *sional (other than a registered nurse or physician as-*  
21 *stant) who—*

22 (A) *has received a certificate, an associate*  
23 *degree, a baccalaureate degree, a master’s degree,*  
24 *a doctoral degree, or postbaccalaureate training,*  
25 *in a science relating to health care;*

1           (B) shares in the responsibility for the de-  
2           livery of health care services or related services,  
3           including—

4                   (i) services relating to the identifica-  
5                   tion, evaluation, and prevention of disease  
6                   and disorders;

7                   (ii) dietary and nutrition services;

8                   (iii) health promotion services;

9                   (iv) rehabilitation services; or

10                   (v) health systems management serv-  
11                   ices; and

12           (C) has not received—

13                   (i) a degree of doctor of medicine;

14                   (ii) a degree of doctor of osteopathy;

15                   (iii) a degree of doctor of dentistry or  
16                   an equivalent degree;

17                   (iv) a degree of doctor of veterinary  
18                   medicine or an equivalent degree;

19                   (v) a degree of doctor of optometry or  
20                   an equivalent degree;

21                   (vi) a degree of doctor of podiatric  
22                   medicine or an equivalent degree;

23                   (vii) a degree of bachelor of science in  
24                   pharmacy or an equivalent degree;

1                   (viii) a degree of doctor of pharmacy  
2                   or an equivalent degree;

3                   (ix) a graduate degree in public health  
4                   or an equivalent degree;

5                   (x) a degree of doctor of chiropractic or  
6                   an equivalent degree;

7                   (xi) a graduate degree in health ad-  
8                   ministration or an equivalent degree;

9                   (xii) a doctoral degree in clinical psy-  
10                  chology or an equivalent degree;

11                  (xiii) a degree in social work or an  
12                  equivalent degree; or

13                  (xiv) a degree in counseling or an  
14                  equivalent degree.

15                  (7) *AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—*

16                  *There is authorized to be appropriated to carry out*  
17                  *this subsection \$4,000,000 for each of fiscal years*  
18                  *2011 through 2013.*

19                  (c) *LAW ENFORCEMENT AND SECURITY MILITARY*  
20                  *PATHWAYS DEMONSTRATION PROGRAM.—*

21                  (1) *IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Labor, act-*  
22                  *ing through the Assistant Secretary of Labor for Vet-*  
23                  *erans' Employment and Training and after consulta-*  
24                  *tion with the Secretary of Veterans Affairs and the*  
25                  *Secretary of Defense, shall establish a demonstration*

1        *program and carry out the program by making*  
2        *grants, on a competitive basis, for demonstration*  
3        *projects. The projects shall be designed to test the fea-*  
4        *sibility of methods of enabling transitioning military*  
5        *members to build on skills learned in many military*  
6        *jobs, to enter the law enforcement and security work-*  
7        *force or continue their skills development in law en-*  
8        *forcement and security disciplines to meet the demand*  
9        *for law enforcement and security officers.*

10            (2) *ANNUAL NUMBER OF GRANTS.—In any 12-*  
11        *month period of the demonstration program, the Sec-*  
12        *retary may not award more than 5 grants for dem-*  
13        *onstration projects described in this subsection.*

14            (3) *AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—*  
15        *There is authorized to be appropriated to carry out*  
16        *this subsection \$4,000,000 for each of fiscal years*  
17        *2011 through 2013.*

18            (d) *MONITORING OF USE OF FUNDS.—The Secretary*  
19        *shall monitor and evaluate the use of amounts made avail-*  
20        *able through grants made under this section. In monitoring*  
21        *and evaluating the use of such amounts, the Secretary shall*  
22        *collect from the grant recipients such information as the*  
23        *Secretary considers to be appropriate, including data on*  
24        *the outcomes relating to the services provided to each vet-*  
25        *eran under this section.*

1       (e) *REPORT.*—Not later than 180 days after the com-  
2       pletion of the demonstration programs carried out under  
3       subsections (a), (b), and (c), the Secretary shall prepare and  
4       submit, to the appropriate committees of Congress and  
5       heads of appropriate Federal agencies, a report on the find-  
6       ings and outcomes of the demonstration programs. The re-  
7       port shall include analysis and a description of methods  
8       for enabling veterans to transfer military occupational  
9       skills from military service to employment in the civilian  
10      labor market. The Secretary shall broadly distribute the re-  
11      port through the veterans service organizations, State  
12      boards, and local boards.

13      (f) *DEFINITIONS.*—In this section:

14           (1) *APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM.*—The term “ap-  
15      prenticeship program” means a program registered  
16      under the Act of August 16, 1937 (commonly known  
17      as the “National Apprenticeship Act”; 50 Stat. 664,  
18      chapter 663; 29 U.S.C. 50 et seq.).

19           (2) *INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION.*—The  
20      term “institution of higher education” has the mean-  
21      ing given the term in section 101 of the Higher Edu-  
22      cation Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1001).

23           (3) *POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION.*—The term  
24      “postsecondary education” means—

1           (A) a 4-year program of instruction, or not  
 2           less than a 1-year program of instruction that is  
 3           acceptable for credit toward a baccalaureate de-  
 4           gree or an associate degree, offered by an institu-  
 5           tion of higher education; or

6           (B) a certificate or apprenticeship program  
 7           at the postsecondary level offered by an institu-  
 8           tion of higher education, a nonprofit educational  
 9           institution, or a labor-management partnership.

10          (4) *WORKFORCE INVESTMENT DEFINITIONS.*—  
 11          The terms “adult education”, “community-based or-  
 12          ganization”, “local board”, “Secretary”, “State  
 13          board”, and “veteran” have the meanings given the  
 14          terms in section 101 of the Workforce Investment Act  
 15          of 1998 (29 U.S.C. 2801).

16 **SEC. 6. VETERANS CORPS GRANT PROGRAMS.**

17          (a) *GRANT PROGRAM REQUIRED.*—

18               (1) *IN GENERAL.*—The Secretary of Veterans Af-  
 19          fairs shall, in consultation with the Secretary of  
 20          Labor, establish—

21                       (A) a grant program to award grants to  
 22                       States to establish veteran-to-veteran corps; and

23                       (B) a grant program to award grants to  
 24                       States to establish veterans conservation corps.

1           (2) *DURATION.*—*The Secretary of Veterans Af-*  
2 *airs shall carry out each grant program established*  
3 *under paragraph (1) during the three-year period be-*  
4 *ginning on the date of the commencement of the grant*  
5 *program.*

6           (3) *MAXIMUM AMOUNT.*—*The amount of a grant*  
7 *awarded to a State under this section in any year*  
8 *may not exceed \$250,000.*

9           (4) *ANNUAL NUMBER OF GRANTS.*—*In any 12-*  
10 *month period of a grant program established under*  
11 *paragraph (1), the Secretary may not award more*  
12 *than five grants under that program.*

13          (b) *VETERAN-TO-VETERAN CORPS.*—*For purposes of*  
14 *this section, a veteran-to-veteran corps is a corps that—*

15           (1) *is established by a State or State-approved*  
16 *entity—*

17               (A) *within the veterans agency of the State;*

18               *or*

19               (B) *in affiliation with the veterans agency*  
20 *of the State; and*

21           (2) *provides veterans with volunteer and employ-*  
22 *ment opportunities with respect to projects for one or*  
23 *more of the following:*

24               (A) *Meeting the needs of homeless veterans.*



1           (B) *Helping veterans find gainful employ-*  
2           *ment, including entrepreneurship opportunities.*

3           (C) *Connecting veterans with the care and*  
4           *benefits they may be eligible for under laws ad-*  
5           *ministered by the Secretary.*

6           (c) *VETERANS CONSERVATION CORPS.—For purposes*  
7           *of this section, a veterans conservation corps is a corps*  
8           *that—*

9           (1) *is established by a State—*

10           (A) *within the veterans agency of the State;*

11           *or*

12           (B) *in affiliation with the veterans agency*  
13           *of the State; and*

14           (2) *provides veterans with volunteer and employ-*  
15           *ment opportunities with respect to conservation*  
16           *projects for one or more of the following:*

17           (A) *To restore natural habitat.*

18           (B) *To maintain Federal, State, or local—*

19           (i) *forest lands;*

20           (ii) *parks and reserves; and*

21           (iii) *other reservations, water, and out-*  
22           *door lands.*

23           (C) *To maintain and improve urban and*  
24           *suburban storm water management facilities and*  
25           *other water management facilities.*

1           (D) *To carry out hazardous materials and*  
2           *spills response, energy efficiency and other envi-*  
3           *ronmental maintenance, stewardship, and res-*  
4           *toration projects.*

5           (d) *TRAINING, EDUCATION, AND CERTIFICATION.—*

6           (1) *IN GENERAL.—A State receiving a grant*  
7           *under this section to establish a veteran-to-veteran*  
8           *corps or a veterans conservation corps shall ensure*  
9           *that such corps incorporates into the volunteer and*  
10           *employment opportunities provided by such corps suf-*  
11           *ficient training, education, and certification in re-*  
12           *lated fields.*

13           (2) *CONSULTATION.—Such State shall ensure*  
14           *that, in incorporating training, education, and cer-*  
15           *tification into volunteer and employment opportuni-*  
16           *ties under paragraph (1), the veteran-to-veteran corps*  
17           *and the veterans conservation corps consults with the*  
18           *following:*

19                   (A) *State and local workforce investment*  
20                   *boards.*

21                   (B) *Local institutions of higher education,*  
22                   *including community colleges.*

23                   (C) *Private schools.*

24                   (D) *State or local agencies, including State*  
25                   *employment agencies and State forest services.*

1                   (E) *Labor organizations.*

2                   (F) *Business involved in the environmental*  
3 *industry, in the case of the veterans conservation*  
4 *corps.*

5                   (G) *Veteran-owned businesses and businesses*  
6 *servicing veterans, in the case of the veteran-to-vet-*  
7 *eran corps.*

8                   (H) *Such other entities as the Secretary of*  
9 *Veterans Affairs considers appropriate.*

10       (e) *EMPLOYMENT ASSISTANCE.—A State receiving a*  
11 *grant under this section to establish a veteran-to-veteran*  
12 *corps or veterans conservation corps shall ensure that such*  
13 *corps partners with one-stop centers, State and local work-*  
14 *force investment boards, and other State agencies to assist*  
15 *veterans enrolled in such corps in obtaining employment*  
16 *in related fields.*

17       (f) *SERVICES.—*

18                   (1) *VETERAN-TO-VETERAN CORPS.—A State re-*  
19 *ceiving a grant under this section to establish a vet-*  
20 *eran-to-veteran corps shall ensure that such corps—*

21                   (A) *assesses of the veterans participating in*  
22 *the Corps the skills to help such veterans identify*  
23 *appropriate employment opportunities in their*  
24 *local communities that utilize the skills they de-*  
25 *veloped while in the Armed Forces;*

1           (B) makes use of the abilities of partici-  
2           pating veterans to help other veterans and, when  
3           practicable, provides opportunities for partici-  
4           pating veterans to provide assistance to veterans  
5           who have experience similar circumstances;

6           (C) assists with or provides referrals for ob-  
7           taining benefits available to veterans;

8           (D) facilitates internships or job shadowing  
9           for veterans; and

10          (E) matches veterans with veteran assist-  
11          ance projects that are aligned with the goals of  
12          the veterans participating in the corps.

13          (2) *VETERANS CONSERVATION CORPS.*—A State  
14          receiving a grant under this section to establish a vet-  
15          erans conservation corps shall ensure that such  
16          corps—

17               (A) assesses of the veterans participating in  
18               the Corps the skills to help such veterans identify  
19               appropriate employment opportunities in their  
20               local communities that utilize the skills they de-  
21               veloped while in the Armed Forces;

22               (B) assists with or provides referrals for ob-  
23               taining benefits available to veterans;

24               (C) facilitates internships or job shadowing  
25               for veterans; and

1           (D) matches veterans with conservation  
2 projects that are aligned with the goals of the  
3 veterans.

4           (3) PARTNERSHIP WITH STATE AND LOCAL  
5 WORKFORCE INVESTMENT BOARDS.—In carrying out  
6 subparagraphs (A) and (D) of paragraph (1) and  
7 subparagraphs (A) and (C) of paragraph (2), the  
8 State shall partner with State and local workforce in-  
9 vestment boards.

10          (g) ANNUAL REPORTS.—Each State receiving a grant  
11 under this section shall submit to the Secretary and the ap-  
12 propriate committees of Congress an annual report, sub-  
13 mitted within one-year of the receipt of the grant, on the  
14 performance of the veteran-to-veteran corps or the veterans  
15 conservation corps of such State, including the following:

16           (1) A description of how the grant amount was  
17 used.

18           (2) An assessment of the performance of such  
19 corps, including a description of the current veterans  
20 labor market in such State and the veterans labor  
21 market in such State in the previous year.

22          (h) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

23           (1) APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES OF CONGRESS.—  
24 The term “appropriate committees of Congress”  
25 means—



1 *BETTER MEET THE NEEDS OF MEMBERS OF THE ARMED*  
2 *FORCES AND VETERANS.—*

3           (1) *REPORT REQUIRED.—Not later than 180*  
4 *days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the*  
5 *Secretary of Defense and the Secretary of Labor, act-*  
6 *ing through the Assistant Secretary of Labor for Vet-*  
7 *erans' Employment and Training, shall jointly sub-*  
8 *mit to the appropriate committees of Congress a re-*  
9 *port setting forth recommendations for improvements*  
10 *and enhancements of the Transition Assistance Pro-*  
11 *gram (TAP) in order to better meet the needs of mem-*  
12 *bers of the Armed Forces and veterans.*

13           (2) *ELEMENTS.—The report required by para-*  
14 *graph (1) shall include the following:*

15                   (A) *A description and assessment of the ex-*  
16 *tent to which the current Transition Assistance*  
17 *Program meets the needs of members of the*  
18 *Armed Forces and veterans.*

19                   (B) *Recommendations for improvements*  
20 *and enhancements of the Transition Assistance*  
21 *Program in order to ensure—*

22                           (i) *the comprehensiveness of the pro-*  
23 *grams and activities under the program;*  
24 *and*

1                   (ii) the consistency of the programs  
2                   and activities under the program across the  
3                   Armed Forces and among the military in-  
4                   stallations at which the program is carried  
5                   out.

6                   (C) Recommendations for improvements  
7                   and enhancements of the Transition Assistance  
8                   Program to ensure that the program meets the  
9                   needs of veterans residing in localities in the vi-  
10                  cinity of military installations at which the pro-  
11                  gram is carried out.

12                  (D) A description and assessment of the  
13                  programs and activities offered to veterans who  
14                  have completed participation in the Transition  
15                  Assistance Program in order to further assist  
16                  such veterans in their continuing transition from  
17                  military life to civilian life, and recommenda-  
18                  tions for programs and activities to improve and  
19                  enhance such assistance.

20                  (E) An estimate of the cost of implementing  
21                  the recommendations set forth pursuant to sub-  
22                  paragraphs (B), (C), and (D) during the five fis-  
23                  cal years beginning after the date of the sub-  
24                  mittal of the report.



1                   (F) *Such other matters as the Secretary of*  
2                   *Defense and the Secretary of Labor jointly con-*  
3                   *sider appropriate.*

4           (b) *STUDY ON PROGRAM OF TRANSITION ASSISTANCE*  
5 *MODELED ON NATIONAL GUARD EMPLOYMENT ENHANCE-*  
6 *MENT PROGRAM OF THE WASHINGTON NATIONAL*  
7 *GUARD.—*

8                   (1) *STUDY REQUIRED.—Not later than 180 days*  
9                   *after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Sec-*  
10                   *retary of Defense shall complete a study of the Na-*  
11                   *tional Guard Employment Enhancement Program of*  
12                   *the Washington National Guard to assess the feasi-*  
13                   *bility and advisability of carrying out a program of*  
14                   *assistance modeled after such program for all mem-*  
15                   *bers of reserve components of the Armed Forces who*  
16                   *transition from active military service to civilian life.*

17                   (2) *REPORT.—Upon completion of the study re-*  
18                   *quired by paragraph (1), the Secretary shall submit*  
19                   *to the appropriate committees of Congress a report*  
20                   *that includes the following:*

21                           (A) *The findings of the Secretary as a result*  
22                           *of the study.*

23                           (B) *The recommendation of the Secretary as*  
24                           *to the feasibility and advisability of carrying out*

1           a program of assistance as described in para-  
2           graph (1).

3           (C) If the Secretary determines that car-  
4           rying out a program of assistance as described  
5           in paragraph (1) is feasible and advisable, an es-  
6           timate of the cost to implement the program of  
7           assistance.

8           (c) *APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES OF CONGRESS DE-*  
9 *FINED.*—In this section, the term “appropriate committees  
10 of Congress” means—

11           (1) the Committee on Armed Services, the Com-  
12           mittee on Veterans’ Affairs, and the Committee on  
13           Appropriations of the Senate; and

14           (2) the Committee on Armed Services, the Com-  
15           mittee on Veterans’ Affairs, and the Committee on  
16           Appropriations of the House of Representatives.

17 **SEC. 8. 3-YEAR LONGITUDINAL STUDY ON THE IMPACT OF**

18                           **GENDER IN UNEMPLOYMENT AMONG VET-**

19                           **ERANS.**

20           (a) *STUDY.*—

21           (1) *IN GENERAL.*—Subject to the availability of  
22           appropriated funds, the Secretary of Labor, acting  
23           through the Assistant Secretary for Veterans’ Employ-  
24           ment and Training (referred to in this section as the  
25           “Secretary”), shall conduct a study to determine

1        *whether gender impacts the need of unemployed vet-*  
2        *erans to collect unemployment benefits. The study*  
3        *shall be a longitudinal study, using a statistically*  
4        *valid sample of each group of individuals described in*  
5        *paragraph (2). The Secretary shall study the groups*  
6        *over a period of not less than 3 years.*

7            (2) *COVERED GROUPS.—The groups of individ-*  
8        *uals described in this paragraph are each of the fol-*  
9        *lowing:*

10            (A) *Unemployed women veterans who do*  
11        *not have dependents and who were discharged or*  
12        *released from the military within the past 10*  
13        *years.*

14            (B) *Unemployed male veterans who do not*  
15        *have dependents and who were discharged or re-*  
16        *leased from the military within the past 10*  
17        *years.*

18            (C) *Unemployed women veterans who have*  
19        *dependents and who were discharged or released*  
20        *from the military within the past 10 years.*

21            (D) *Unemployed male veterans who have*  
22        *dependents and who were discharged or released*  
23        *from the military within the past 10 years.*

24            (3) *CONTENTS OF STUDY.—The Secretary shall*  
25        *collect for the study required under paragraph (1)*

1        *any data the Secretary determines are necessary to*  
2        *determine whether gender impacts the individuals'*  
3        *need to collect unemployment benefits. The Secretary*  
4        *may add data elements to the study from time to time*  
5        *as necessary. In addition, the Secretary shall collect*  
6        *through the study, for inclusion in each report under*  
7        *subsection (b), all of the following information:*

8                *(A) Any unemployment benefits received by*  
9                *such individuals.*

10               *(B) The average number of months such in-*  
11               *dividuals served on active duty in the Armed*  
12               *Forces.*

13               *(C) The distribution of disability ratings of*  
14               *such individuals.*

15               *(D) The types of other benefits administered*  
16               *by the Secretary and received by such individ-*  
17               *uals.*

18               *(E) The types of benefits received by such*  
19               *individuals under the old-age, survivors, and dis-*  
20               *ability insurance benefits program established*  
21               *under title II of the Social Security Act (42*  
22               *U.S.C. 401 et seq.).*

23               *(F) The average number of months such in-*  
24               *dividuals were unemployed during the year cov-*  
25               *ered by the study.*

1           (G) *The average annual starting and end-*  
2 *ing salary of such individuals in their most re-*  
3 *cent employment.*

4           (H) *The number of such individuals with*  
5 *postsecondary education.*

6           (I) *The average number of postsecondary*  
7 *academic credit hours completed, and degrees*  
8 *and certificates earned, by such individuals dur-*  
9 *ing the year covered by the study.*

10          (J) *The average number of visits such indi-*  
11 *viduals made to a Department of Veterans Af-*  
12 *airs medical facility during the year covered by*  
13 *the study.*

14          (K) *The average number of visits such indi-*  
15 *viduals made to a non-Department of Veterans*  
16 *Affairs medical facility during the year covered*  
17 *by the study.*

18          (L) *The average annual income of such in-*  
19 *dividuals.*

20          (M) *The average total household income of*  
21 *such individuals for the year covered by the*  
22 *study.*

23          (N) *The percentage of such individuals who*  
24 *own their principal residences.*

1                   (O) *The average number of dependents of*  
 2                   *each such individual.*

3           (b) *ANNUAL REPORT.*—*By not later than the July 1*  
 4 *after each year covered by the study required under sub-*  
 5 *section (a), the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on*  
 6 *Veterans' Affairs of the House of Representatives and the*  
 7 *Committee on Veterans' Affairs of the Senate a report on*  
 8 *the study during the covered year.*

9   **SEC. 9. REAUTHORIZATION OF DEMONSTRATION PROJECT**  
 10                   **ON CREDENTIALING AND LICENSURE OF VET-**  
 11                   **ERANS.**

12           Section 4114 of title 38, United States Code, is amend-  
 13 *ed—*

14                   (1) *in subsection (b)—*

15                           (A) *in paragraph (1), by inserting “, in-*  
 16 *cluding the emergency medical services industry”*  
 17 *after “demand”; and*

18                           (B) *in paragraph (3), by inserting before*  
 19 *the period at the end the following: “to ensure*  
 20 *that satisfaction of such requirements may take*  
 21 *into account, and be not duplicative of, previous*  
 22 *coursework and training received by such mem-*  
 23 *bers while such members were active members of*  
 24 *the Armed Forces”;*

1           (2) *in subsection (e), by inserting “the Secretary*  
2 *of Health and Human Services,” after “Veterans Af-*  
3 *fairs,”; and*

4           (3) *in subsection (g)—*

5                 (A) *by striking “The period” and inserting*  
6 *“The periods”; and*

7                 (B) *by striking “period beginning on” and*  
8 *all that follows through the period and inserting*  
9 *the following: “periods as follows:*

10                 “(1) *The period beginning on the date that is 60*  
11 *days after the date of the enactment of the Veterans*  
12 *Benefits, Health Care, and Information Technology*  
13 *Act of 2006 and ending on September 30, 2009.*

14                 “(2) *The period beginning on October 1, 2011,*  
15 *and ending on September 30, 2013.”.*

Calendar No. 556

11<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESS  
2<sup>D</sup> SESSION

**S. 3234**

[Report No. 111-285]

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## **A BILL**

To improve employment, training, and placement services furnished to veterans, especially those serving in Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom, and for other purposes.

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SEPTEMBER 2, 2010

Reported with an amendment