

103^D CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 996

To amend title 38, United States Code, to establish a veterans education certification and outreach program.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 18, 1993

Mr. MONTGOMERY (for himself and Mr. SMITH of New Jersey) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs

A BILL

To amend title 38, United States Code, to establish a veterans education certification and outreach program.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. VETERANS EDUCATION OUTREACH PROGRAM.**

4 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—Chapter 36 of title 38, Unit-
5 ed States Code, is amended by adding at the end of sub-
6 chapter II the following new section:

7 **“§ 3697B. Veterans education outreach program**

8 “(a) The Secretary shall provide funding for offices
9 of veterans affairs at institutions of higher learning, as
10 defined in section 3452(f), in accordance with this section.

1 “(b)(1)(A) The Secretary shall, subject to the avail-
2 ability of appropriations, make payments to any institu-
3 tion of higher learning, under and in accordance with this
4 section, during any fiscal year if the number of persons
5 eligible for services from offices assisted under this section
6 at the institution is at least 50, determined in the same
7 manner as the number of eligible veterans or eligible per-
8 sons is determined under section 3684(c).

9 “(B) The persons who are eligible for services from
10 the offices assisted under this section are persons receiving
11 educational assistance administered by the Department of
12 Veterans Affairs, including assistance provided under
13 chapter 106 of title 10.

14 “(2) To be eligible for a payment under this section,
15 an institution of higher learning or a consortium of insti-
16 tutions of higher learning, as described in paragraph (3),
17 shall make an application to the Secretary. The applica-
18 tion shall—

19 “(A) set forth such policies, assurances, and
20 procedures that will ensure that—

21 “(i) the funds received by the institution,
22 or each institution in a consortium of institu-
23 tions described in paragraph (3), under this
24 section will be used solely to carry out this
25 section;

1 “(ii) for enhancing the functions of its vet-
2 erans education outreach program, the appli-
3 cant will expend, during the academic year for
4 which a payment is sought, an amount equal to
5 at least the amount of the award under this
6 section from sources other than this or any
7 other Federal program; and

8 “(iii) the applicant will submit to the Sec-
9 retary such reports as the Secretary may re-
10 quire or as are required by this section;

11 “(B) contain such other statement of policies,
12 assurances, and procedures as the Secretary may re-
13 quire in order to protect the financial interests of
14 the United States;

15 “(C) set forth such plans, policies, assurances,
16 and procedures as will ensure that the applicant will
17 maintain an office of veterans’ affairs which has re-
18 sponsibility for—

19 “(i) veterans’ certification, outreach, re-
20 cruitment, and special education programs, in-
21 cluding the provision of or referral to edu-
22 cational, vocational, and personal counseling for
23 veterans; and

24 “(ii) providing information regarding other
25 services provided veterans by the Department,

1 including the readjustment counseling program
2 authorized under section 1712A, the programs
3 of veterans employment and training authorized
4 under the Job Training Partnership Act and
5 the Service Members Occupational Conversion
6 and Training Act of 1992, and the programs
7 carried out under chapters 41 and 42; and

8 “(D) be submitted at such time or times, in
9 such manner, in such form, and contain such infor-
10 mation as the Secretary determines necessary to
11 carry out the functions of the Secretary under this
12 section.

13 “(3) An institution of higher learning which is eligible
14 for funding under this section and which the Secretary
15 determines cannot feasibly carry out, by itself, any or all
16 of the activities set forth in paragraph (2)(C), may carry
17 out such program or programs through a consortium
18 agreement with one or more other institutions of higher
19 learning in the same community.

20 “(4) The Secretary shall not approve an application
21 under this subsection unless the Secretary determines that
22 the applicant will implement the requirements of para-
23 graph (2)(C) within the first academic year during which
24 it receives a payment under this section.

1 “(5) Any institution which received funding under
2 section 420A of the Higher Education Act of 1965 during
3 fiscal year 1993 shall be eligible under this section for fis-
4 cal year 1994.

5 “(c)(1)(A) Subject to subparagraph (B), the amount
6 of the payment which any institution shall receive under
7 this section for any fiscal year shall be \$100 for each per-
8 son who is described in subsection (b)(1)(B).

9 “(B) The maximum amount of payments to any insti-
10 tution of higher learning, or any branch thereof which is
11 located in a community which is different from that in
12 which the parent institution thereof is located, in any fis-
13 cal year is \$75,000.

14 “(2)(A) The Secretary shall pay to each institution
15 of higher learning which has had an application approved
16 under subsection (b) the amount which it is to receive
17 under this section. If the amount appropriated for any fis-
18 cal year is not sufficient to pay the amounts which all such
19 institutions are to receive, the Secretary shall ratably re-
20 duce such payments. If any amount becomes available to
21 carry out this section for a fiscal year after such reduc-
22 tions have been imposed, such reduced payments shall be
23 increased on the same basis as they were reduced.

24 “(B) In making payments under this section for any
25 fiscal year, the Secretary shall apportion the appropriation

1 for making such payments, from funds which become
2 available as a result of the limitation on payments set
3 forth in paragraph (1)(B), in an equitable manner.

4 “(d) The Secretary, in carrying out the provisions of
5 this section, shall seek to assure the coordination of pro-
6 grams assisted under this section with other programs car-
7 ried out by the Department pursuant to this title, and the
8 Secretary shall provide all assistance, technical consulta-
9 tion, and information otherwise authorized by law as nec-
10 essary to promote the maximum effectiveness of the activi-
11 ties and programs assisted under this section.

12 “(e)(1) From the amounts made available for any fis-
13 cal year under subsection (f), the Secretary shall retain
14 one percent or \$10,000, whichever is less, for the purpose
15 of collecting information about exemplary veterans edu-
16 cational outreach programs and disseminating that infor-
17 mation to other institutions of higher learning having such
18 programs on their campuses. Such collection and dissemi-
19 nation shall be done on an annual basis.

20 “(2) From the amounts made available under sub-
21 section (f), the Secretary may retain not more than two
22 percent for the purpose of administering this section.

23 “(f) Out of amounts made available for the payment
24 of readjustment benefits for each fiscal year beginning

1 after September 30, 1993, \$3,000,000 shall be made avail-
2 able to carry out this section.”.

3 (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections
4 at the beginning of chapter 36 of title 38, United States
5 Code, is amended by inserting after the item relating to
6 section 3697A the following new item:

“3697B. Veterans education outreach program.”.

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