

Union Calendar No. 50

103D CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 996

[Report No. 103-98]

A BILL

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

MAY 19, 1993

Reported with an amendment, committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union, and ordered to be printed

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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

MAY 19, 1993

Additional sponsors: Mrs. MINK, Mr. RICHARDSON, Mr. DIXON, Mr. HEFNER, Mr. STENHOLM, Mr. PAYNE of Virginia, and Mr. PARKER

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[Omit the part struck through and insert the part printed in italic]

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,*

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

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

5 **“§ 3697B. Veterans education outreach program**

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

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

17 “(B) The persons who are eligible for services from
18 the offices assisted under this section are persons receiving
19 educational assistance administered by the Department of
20 Veterans Affairs, including assistance provided under
21 chapter 106 of title 10.

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

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

3 “(i) the funds received by the institution,
4 or each institution in a consortium of institu-
5 tions described in paragraph (3), under this
6 section will be used solely to carry out this
7 section;

8 “(ii) for enhancing the functions of its vet-
9 erans education outreach program, the appli-
10 cant will expend, during the academic year for
11 which a payment is sought, an amount equal to
12 at least the amount of the award under this
13 section from sources other than this or any
14 other Federal program; and

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

18 “(B) contain such other statement of policies,
19 assurances, and procedures as the Secretary may re-
20 quire in order to protect the financial interests of
21 the United States;

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

1 “(i) veterans’ certification, outreach, re-
2 recruitment, and special education programs, in-
3 cluding the provision of or referral to edu-
4 cational, vocational, and personal counseling for
5 veterans; and

6 “(ii) providing information regarding other
7 services provided veterans by the Department,
8 including the readjustment counseling program
9 authorized under section 1712A, the programs
10 of veterans employment and training authorized
11 under the Job Training Partnership Act and
12 the Service Members Occupational Conversion
13 and Training Act of 1992, and the programs
14 carried out under chapters 41 and 42; and

15 “(D) be submitted at such time or times, in
16 such manner, in such form, and contain such infor-
17 mation as the Secretary determines necessary to
18 carry out the functions of the Secretary under this
19 section.

20 “(3) An institution of higher learning which is eligible
21 for funding under this section and which the Secretary
22 determines cannot feasibly carry out, by itself, any or all
23 of the activities set forth in paragraph (2)(C), may carry
24 out such program or programs through a consortium

1 agreement with one or more other institutions of higher
2 learning in the same community.

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

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

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

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

21 “(2)(A) The Secretary shall pay to each institution
22 of higher learning which has had an application approved
23 under subsection (b) the amount which it is to receive
24 under this section. If the amount appropriated for any fis-
25 cal year is not sufficient to pay the amounts which all such

1 institutions are to receive, the Secretary shall ratably re-
2 duce such payments. If any amount becomes available to
3 carry out this section for a fiscal year after such reduc-
4 tions have been imposed, such reduced payments shall be
5 increased on the same basis as they were reduced.

6 “(B) In making payments under this section for any
7 fiscal year, the Secretary shall apportion the appropriation
8 for making such payments, from funds which become
9 available as a result of the limitation on payments set
10 forth in paragraph (1)(B), in an equitable manner.

11 “(d) The Secretary, in carrying out the provisions of
12 this section, shall seek to assure the coordination of pro-
13 grams assisted under this section with other programs car-
14 ried out by the Department pursuant to this title, and the
15 Secretary shall provide all assistance, technical consulta-
16 tion, and information otherwise authorized by law as nec-
17 essary to promote the maximum effectiveness of the activi-
18 ties and programs assisted under this section.

19 “(e)(1) From the amounts made available for any fis-
20 cal year under subsection (f), the Secretary shall retain
21 one percent or \$10,000, whichever is less, for the purpose
22 of collecting information about exemplary veterans edu-
23 cational outreach programs and disseminating that infor-
24 mation to other institutions of higher learning having such

1 programs on their campuses. Such collection and dissemi-
2 nation shall be done on an annual basis.

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

6 ~~“(f) Out of amounts made available for the payment~~
7 ~~of readjustment benefits for each fiscal year beginning~~
8 ~~after September 30, 1993, \$3,000,000 shall be made avail-~~
9 ~~able to carry out this section.”.~~

10 *“(f) There is authorized to be appropriated \$3,000,000*
11 *for each fiscal year to carry out this section.”.*

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

“3697B. Veterans education outreach program.”.