

**Suspend the Rules and Pass the Bill, HR. 2433**

**(The amendment strikes all after the enacting clause and inserts a new text)**

112<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESS  
1<sup>ST</sup> SESSION

# H. R. 2433

To amend title 38, United States Code, to make certain improvements in the laws relating to the employment and training of veterans, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 7, 2011

Mr. MILLER of Florida introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs, and in addition to the Committee on Armed Services, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

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## A BILL

To amend title 38, United States Code, to make certain improvements in the laws relating to the employment and training of veterans, and for other purposes.

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

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.**

4 (a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the  
5 “Veterans Opportunity to Work Act of 2011”.

1 (b) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents for  
2 this Act is as follows:

Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.

TITLE I—RETRAINING VETERANS

Sec. 101. Veterans retraining assistance program.

TITLE II—IMPROVING THE TRANSITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

- Sec. 201. Transition Assistance Program contracting.
- Sec. 202. Mandatory participation in Transition Assistance Program.
- Sec. 203. Report on Transition Assistance Program.
- Sec. 204. Transition Assistance Program outcomes.
- Sec. 205. Comptroller General review.

TITLE III—IMPROVING THE TRANSITION OF VETERANS TO  
CIVILIAN EMPLOYMENT

- Sec. 301. Reauthorization and improvement of demonstration project on credentialing and licensure of veterans.
- Sec. 302. Inclusion of performance measures in annual report on veteran job counseling, training, and placement programs of the Department of Labor.
- Sec. 303. Clarification of priority of service for veterans in Department of Labor job training programs.
- Sec. 304. Evaluation of individuals receiving training at the National Veterans' Employment and Training Services Institute.
- Sec. 305. Requirements for full-time disabled veterans' outreach program specialists and local veterans' employment representatives.
- Sec. 306. Report on findings of the Department of Defense and Department of Labor credentialing work group.

TITLE IV—IMPROVEMENTS TO UNIFORMED SERVICES  
EMPLOYMENT AND REEMPLOYMENT RIGHTS

Sec. 401. Clarification of benefits of employment covered under USERRA.

TITLE V—OTHER MATTERS

- Sec. 501. Extension of certain expiring provisions of law.
- Sec. 502. Department of Veterans Affairs housing loan guarantees for surviving spouses of certain totally disabled veterans.
- Sec. 503. Reimbursement rate for ambulance services.
- Sec. 504. Annual reports on Post-9/11 Educational Assistance Program and Survivors' and Dependents' Educational Assistance Program.
- Sec. 505. Limitation on amount authorized to be appropriated for employee travel, printing, and fleet vehicles.
- Sec. 506. Extension of reduced pension for certain veterans covered by Medicaid plans for services furnished by nursing facilities.
- Sec. 507. Statutory Pay-As-You-Go-Act of 2010.

1                   **TITLE I—RETRAINING**  
2                   **VETERANS**

3 **SEC. 101. VETERANS RETRAINING ASSISTANCE PROGRAM.**

4           (a) PROGRAM AUTHORIZED.—

5                   (1) IN GENERAL.—In accordance with this sec-  
6           tion, during the period beginning on June 1, 2012,  
7           and ending on March 31, 2014, the Secretary of  
8           Labor shall provide for monthly payments of retrain-  
9           ing assistance to eligible veterans. Payments of re-  
10          training assistance under this section shall be made  
11          by the Secretary of Labor through the Secretary of  
12          Veterans Affairs.

13                   (2) NUMBER OF ELIGIBLE VETERANS.—The  
14          number of eligible veterans who participate in the  
15          program may not exceed—

16                           (A) 45,000 during fiscal year 2012; and

17                           (B) 55,000 during the period beginning  
18           October 1, 2012, and ending March 31, 2014.

19          (b) RETRAINING ASSISTANCE.—Except as provided  
20          by subsection (i), each veteran who participates in the pro-  
21          gram established under subsection (a)(1) shall be entitled  
22          to up to 12 months of retraining assistance, as determined  
23          by the Secretary of Labor. Such retraining assistance may  
24          only be used by the veteran to pursue a program of edu-  
25          cation (as such term is defined in section 3452(b) of title

1 38, United States Code) or training on a full-time basis  
2 that—

3 (1) is approved under chapter 36 of such title;

4 (2) is offered by a community college or tech-  
5 nical school;

6 (3) leads to an associates degree or a certificate  
7 (or other similar evidence of the completion of the  
8 program of education or training); and

9 (4) is designed to provide training for a high-  
10 demand occupation, as determined by the Secretary  
11 of Labor.

12 (c) MONTHLY CERTIFICATION.—Each veteran who  
13 participates in the program established under subsection  
14 (a)(1) shall certify to the Secretary of Veterans Affairs  
15 the enrollment of the veteran in a program of education  
16 described in subsection (b) for each month in which the  
17 veteran participates in the program.

18 (d) AMOUNT OF ASSISTANCE.—The monthly amount  
19 of the retraining assistance payable under this section is  
20 the amount in effect under section 3015(a)(1) of title 38,  
21 United States Code.

22 (e) ELIGIBILITY.—For purposes of this section, an  
23 eligible veteran is a veteran who—

24 (1) is at least 35 years of age but not more  
25 than 60 years of age;

1           (2) was last discharged from active duty service  
2           in the Armed Forces with an honorable discharge;

3           (3) as of the date of the submittal of the appli-  
4           cation for assistance under this section, has been un-  
5           employed for a period of time determined by the  
6           Secretary, with special consideration given to vet-  
7           erans who have been unemployed for at least 26 con-  
8           tinuous weeks;

9           (4) is not eligible to apply for educational as-  
10          sistance under chapter 30, 31, 33, or 35 of title 38,  
11          United States Code; and

12          (5) by not later than October 1, 2013, submits  
13          to the Secretary of Labor an application containing  
14          such information and assurances as the Secretary  
15          may require.

16          (f) REPORT.—Not later than July 1, 2014, the Sec-  
17          retary of Labor and the Secretary of Veterans Affairs  
18          shall jointly submit to the Committees on Veterans' Af-  
19          fairs of the Senate and the House of Representatives a  
20          report on the retraining assistance provided under this  
21          section, including—

22                 (1) the total number of—

23                         (A) eligible veterans who participated;

24                         (B) credit hours completed; and

1 (C) associates degrees or certificates  
2 awarded (or other similar evidence of the com-  
3 pletion of the program of education or training  
4 earned); and

5 (2) data related to the employment status of el-  
6 igible veterans who participated.

7 (g) JOINT AGREEMENT.—The Secretary of Labor  
8 and the Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall enter into an  
9 agreement on carrying out this section.

10 (h) SOURCE OF FUNDS.—Payments under this sec-  
11 tion shall be made from amounts appropriated to the read-  
12 justment benefits account of the Department of Veterans  
13 Affairs.

14 (i) TERMINATION OF AUTHORITY.—The authority to  
15 make payments under this section shall terminate on  
16 March 31, 2014.

17 **TITLE II—IMPROVING THE**  
18 **TRANSITION ASSISTANCE**  
19 **PROGRAM**

20 **SEC. 201. TRANSITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM CON-**  
21 **TRACTING.**

22 (a) TRANSITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM CON-  
23 TRACTING.—

24 (1) IN GENERAL.—Section 4113 of title 38,  
25 United States Code, is amended to read as follows:

1 **“§ 4113. Transition Assistance Program personnel**

2       “(a) **AUTHORITY TO CONTRACT.**—In accordance  
3 with section 1144 of title 10, the Secretary shall enter into  
4 a contract with an appropriate private entity or entities  
5 to provide the functions described in subsection (b) at all  
6 locations where the program described in such section is  
7 carried out.

8       “(b) **FUNCTIONS.**—Contractors under subsection (a)  
9 shall provide to members of the Armed Forces who are  
10 being separated from active duty (and the spouses of such  
11 members) the services described in section 1144(a)(1) of  
12 title 10, including—

13               “(1) counseling;

14               “(2) assistance in identifying employment and  
15 training opportunities and help in obtaining such  
16 employment and training;

17               “(3) other related information and services  
18 under such section; and

19               “(4) any other services that the Secretary de-  
20 termines are appropriate.”.

21       (2) **CLERICAL AMENDMENT.**—The table of sec-  
22 tions at the beginning of chapter 41 of title 38,  
23 United States Code, is amended by striking the item  
24 relating to section 4113 and inserting the following  
25 new item:

“4113. Transition Assistance Program personnel.”.

1 (b) DEADLINE FOR IMPLEMENTATION.—The Sec-  
2 retary of Labor shall enter into the contract required by  
3 section 4113 of title 38, United States Code, as added by  
4 subsection (a), by not later than 24 months after the date  
5 of the enactment of this Act.

6 **SEC. 202. MANDATORY PARTICIPATION IN TRANSITION AS-**  
7 **SISTANCE PROGRAM.**

8 Section 1144(c) of title 10, United States Code, is  
9 amended by striking “shall encourage” and all that follows  
10 and inserting “shall encourage the participation of mem-  
11 bers of the armed forces in pay grades E-8 and above and  
12 O-6 and above who are eligible for assistance under the  
13 program and shall require the participation of all other  
14 members of the armed forces who are eligible for assist-  
15 ance under the program unless a documented urgent oper-  
16 ational requirement prevents attendance or an individual  
17 service member, with written approval of their com-  
18 mander, chooses to decline participation, in writing, based  
19 on post-service employment or acceptance to an education  
20 program. Such documentation shall be included in the per-  
21 sonnel record of the member.”.

22 **SEC. 203. REPORT ON TRANSITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM.**

23 Section 1144 of title 10, United States Code, is  
24 amended by adding at the end the following new sub-  
25 section:

1           “(e) REPORTS AND AUDITS.—(1) Not later than Jan-  
2 uary 30 of each year, the Secretary of Labor shall submit  
3 to the Committees on Veterans’ Affairs of the Senate and  
4 House of Representatives a report on the program estab-  
5 lished under this section that includes the number of mem-  
6 bers of the armed forces eligible for assistance under the  
7 program who participated in the program within 30, 90,  
8 and 180 days of being separated from active duty, and  
9 the percentages of all such eligible participants who par-  
10 ticipated within each such time period.

11           “(2)(A) The Secretary of Labor shall enter into a  
12 contract with an appropriate entity to conduct an audit  
13 of the program established under this section not less fre-  
14 quently than once every three years and to submit to the  
15 Secretary of Defense, the Secretary of Labor, the Sec-  
16 retary of Veterans Affairs, and the Committees on Vet-  
17 erans’ Affairs of the Senate and House of Representatives  
18 a report containing the results of each such audit.

19           “(B)(i) Except as provided in clause (ii), the Sec-  
20 retary of Labor shall enter into the contract under sub-  
21 paragraph (A) with an appropriate entity that is a small  
22 business concern owned and controlled by veterans or a  
23 small business concern owned and controlled by service-  
24 disabled veterans and that is included in the database of  
25 veteran-owned businesses maintained under subsection (f)

1 of section 8127 of title 38 and verified by the Secretary  
2 pursuant to paragraph (4) of that subsection.

3 “(ii) If the Secretary of Labor is unable to enter into  
4 the contract under subparagraph (A) with a qualified busi-  
5 ness concern described in clause (i), the Secretary shall  
6 enter into such contract with another qualified appropriate  
7 entity.

8 “(C) The Secretary of Labor shall enter into the con-  
9 tract under this paragraph using funds made available for  
10 the State grant program authorized under section 4102A  
11 of title 38.”.

12 **SEC. 204. TRANSITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM OUTCOMES.**

13 Section 1144 of title 10, United States Code, as  
14 amended by section 202 and 203, is further amended by  
15 adding at the end the following new subsection:

16 “(f) PROGRAM OUTCOMES.—The Secretary of Labor  
17 shall develop a method to assess the outcomes for individ-  
18 uals who participate in the program established under this  
19 section. The Secretary of Defense shall provide to the Sec-  
20 retary of Labor any data on participation in the program  
21 that is necessary for the Secretary of Labor to develop  
22 such method. Such method shall be designed to determine  
23 the following outcomes:

1           “(1) The length of the period during which the  
2 individual was unemployed following the individual’s  
3 separation from active duty.

4           “(2) The beginning salary paid to the individual  
5 for the first job the individual obtained following  
6 such separation.

7           “(3) The number of months of school or other  
8 training the individual attended during the first 12-  
9 month period following such separation.”.

10 **SEC. 205. COMPTROLLER GENERAL REVIEW.**

11       Not later than one year after the date of the enact-  
12 ment of this Act, the Comptroller General of the United  
13 States shall conduct a review of the Transition Assistance  
14 Program under section 1144 of title 10, United States  
15 Code, and submit to Congress a report on the results of  
16 the review and any recommendations of the Comptroller  
17 General for improving the program.

18 **TITLE III—IMPROVING THE**  
19 **TRANSITION OF VETERANS**  
20 **TO CIVILIAN EMPLOYMENT**

21 **SEC. 301. REAUTHORIZATION AND IMPROVEMENT OF DEM-**  
22 **ONSTRATION PROJECT ON CREDENTIALING**  
23 **AND LICENSURE OF VETERANS.**

24       Section 4114 of title 38, United States Code, is  
25 amended—

1 (1) in subsection (b)—

2 (A) in paragraph (1), by striking “not less  
3 than 10” and inserting “not less than 5 but not  
4 more than 10”; and

5 (B) in paragraph (2), by striking “consult  
6 with appropriate Federal, State, and industry  
7 officials” and inserting “enter into a contract  
8 with an appropriate entity representing a coali-  
9 tion of State governors”;

10 (2) in subsection (g)—

11 (A) by striking “Veterans Benefits, Health  
12 Care, and Information Technology Act of  
13 2006” and inserting the “Veterans Opportunity  
14 to Work Act of 2011”; and

15 (B) by striking “September 30, 2009” and  
16 inserting “September 30, 2014”;

17 (3) in subsection (h)—

18 (A) by striking “utilizing unobligated  
19 funds” and inserting “using not more than  
20 \$180,000 of the funds in each fiscal year”; and

21 (B) by inserting before the period at the  
22 end the following: “, to be derived from  
23 amounts otherwise made available to carry out  
24 sections 4103A and 4104 of this title”; and

1 (4) by adding at the end the following new sub-  
2 section:

3 “(i) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—Not later than 30 days  
4 after the last day of a fiscal year during which the dem-  
5 onstration project under this section is carried out, the  
6 Assistant Secretary, in coordination with the entity with  
7 which the Assistant Secretary enters into a contract under  
8 subsection (b)(2), shall submit to the Committees on Vet-  
9 erans’ Affairs of the Senate and House of Representatives  
10 a report on the implementation of the demonstration  
11 project during that fiscal year.”.

12 **SEC. 302. INCLUSION OF PERFORMANCE MEASURES IN AN-**  
13 **NUAL REPORT ON VETERAN JOB COUN-**  
14 **SELING, TRAINING, AND PLACEMENT PRO-**  
15 **GRAMS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR.**

16 Section 4107(c) of title 38, United States Code, is  
17 amended—

18 (1) in paragraph (2), by striking “clause (1)”  
19 and inserting “paragraph (1)”;

20 (2) in paragraph (5), by striking “and” at the  
21 end;

22 (3) in paragraph (6), by striking the period and  
23 inserting “; and”; and

24 (4) by adding at the end the following new  
25 paragraphs:

1           “(7) performance measures for the provision of  
2 assistance under this chapter, including—

3           “(A) the percentage of participants in pro-  
4 grams under this chapter who are employed  
5 after the 180-day period following their comple-  
6 tion of the program;

7           “(B) the percentage of such participants  
8 who are employed after the one-year period fol-  
9 lowing their completion of the program;

10           “(C) the median earnings of such partici-  
11 pants after the 180-day period following their  
12 completion of the program;

13           “(D) the median earnings of such partici-  
14 pants after the one-year period following their  
15 completion of the program; and

16           “(E) the percentage of participants in such  
17 program who complete a certificate, degree, di-  
18 ploma, licensure, or industry-recognized creden-  
19 tial while they are participating in the program  
20 or within one year of completing the program.”.

21 **SEC. 303. CLARIFICATION OF PRIORITY OF SERVICE FOR**  
22 **VETERANS IN DEPARTMENT OF LABOR JOB**  
23 **TRAINING PROGRAMS.**

24           Section 4215 of title 38, United States Code, is  
25 amended—

1           (1) in subsection (a)(3), by adding at the end  
2           the following: “Such priority includes giving access  
3           to such services to a covered person before a non-  
4           covered person or, if resources are limited, giving ac-  
5           cess to such services to a covered person instead of  
6           a non-covered person.”; and

7           (2) by amending subsection (d) to read as fol-  
8           lows:

9           “(d) ADDITION TO ANNUAL REPORT.—(1) In the an-  
10          nual report required under section 4107(e) of this title for  
11          the program year beginning in 2003 and each subsequent  
12          program year, the Secretary of Labor shall evaluate  
13          whether covered persons are receiving priority of service  
14          and are being fully served by qualified job training pro-  
15          grams. Such evaluation shall include—

16                 “(A) an analysis of the implementation of pro-  
17                 viding such priority at the local level;

18                 “(B) whether the representation of veterans in  
19                 such programs is in proportion to the incidence of  
20                 representation of veterans in the labor market, in-  
21                 cluding within groups that the Secretary may des-  
22                 ignate for priority under such programs, if any; and

23                 “(C) performance measures, as determined by  
24                 the Secretary, to determine whether veterans are re-

1           ceiving priority of service and are being fully served  
2           by qualified job training programs.

3           “(2) The Secretary may not use the proportion of  
4 representation of veterans described in subparagraph (B)  
5 of paragraph (1) as the basis for determining under such  
6 paragraph whether veterans are receiving priority of serv-  
7 ice and are being fully served by qualified job training pro-  
8 grams.”.

9   **SEC. 304. EVALUATION OF INDIVIDUALS RECEIVING TRAIN-**  
10                                   **ING AT THE NATIONAL VETERANS’ EMPLOY-**  
11                                   **MENT AND TRAINING SERVICES INSTITUTE.**

12           (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 4109 of title 38, United  
13 States Code, is amended by adding at the end the fol-  
14 lowing new subsection:

15           “(d) The Secretary shall require that each individual  
16 who receives training provided by the Institute, or its suc-  
17 cessor, is given a final examination to evaluate the individ-  
18 ual’s performance in receiving such training. Each such  
19 evaluation shall be designed to provide the individual with  
20 a grade, which shall be designated as either a passing  
21 grade or a failing grade. The results of such final examina-  
22 tion shall be provided to the entity that sponsored the indi-  
23 vidual who received the training.”.

24           (b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—Subsection (d) of section  
25 4109 of title 38, United States Code, shall apply with re-

1 spect to training provided by the National Veterans' Em-  
2 ployment and Training Services Institute that begins on  
3 or after the date of the enactment of this Act.

4 **SEC. 305. REQUIREMENTS FOR FULL-TIME DISABLED VET-**  
5 **ERANS' OUTREACH PROGRAM SPECIALISTS**  
6 **AND LOCAL VETERANS' EMPLOYMENT REP-**  
7 **RESENTATIVES.**

8 (a) **DISABLED VETERANS' OUTREACH PROGRAM**  
9 **SPECIALISTS.**—Section 4103A of title 38, United States  
10 Code, is amended by adding at the end the following new  
11 subsection:

12 “(d) **ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENT FOR FULL-TIME**  
13 **EMPLOYEES.**—(1) A full-time disabled veterans' outreach  
14 program specialist shall perform only duties related to  
15 meeting the employment needs of eligible veterans, as de-  
16 scribed in subsection (a), and shall not perform other non-  
17 veteran-related duties.

18 “(2) The Secretary shall conduct regular audits to  
19 ensure compliance with paragraph (1). If, on the basis of  
20 such an audit, the Secretary determines that a State is  
21 not in compliance with paragraph (1), the Secretary may  
22 reduce the amount of a grant made to the State under  
23 section 4102A(b)(5) of this title.”.

24 (b) **LOCAL VETERANS' EMPLOYMENT REPRESENTA-**  
25 **TIVES.**—Section 4104 of such title is amended—

1           (1) by redesignating subsection (e) as sub-  
2           section (f); and

3           (2) by inserting after subsection (d) the fol-  
4           lowing new subsection (e):

5           “(e) **ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS FOR FULL-TIME**  
6 **EMPLOYEES.**—(1) A full-time local veterans’ employment  
7 representative shall perform only duties related to the em-  
8 ployment, training, and placement services under this  
9 chapter, and shall not perform other non-veteran-related  
10 duties.

11          “(2) The Secretary shall conduct regular audits to  
12 ensure compliance with paragraph (1). If, on the basis of  
13 such an audit, the Secretary determines that a State is  
14 not in compliance with paragraph (1), the Secretary may  
15 reduce the amount of a grant made to the State under  
16 section 4102A(b)(5) of this title.”.

17 **SEC. 306. REPORT ON FINDINGS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF**  
18 **DEFENSE AND DEPARTMENT OF LABOR**  
19 **CREDENTIALING WORK GROUP.**

20          (a) **IN GENERAL.**—The Secretary of Defense and the  
21 Secretary of Labor shall jointly enter into a contract with  
22 a qualified organization or entity jointly selected by the  
23 Secretaries to complete the study of 10 military occupa-  
24 tional specialties already begun by the joint Department  
25 of Defense and Department of Labor Credentialing Work

1 Group to reduce barriers to certification and licensure for  
2 transitioning members of the Armed Forces and veterans.  
3 This study shall also include an examination of current  
4 initiatives, programs, and authority already established  
5 within the Department of Defense and the military serv-  
6 ices to promote credentialing of members of the Armed  
7 Forces and identify best practices that can be leveraged  
8 by all services to increase the transferability of military  
9 education, training, experience, and skills.

10 (b) REPORT.—The contract described in subsection  
11 (a) shall provide that upon completion of the study de-  
12 scribed in such subsection, the organization or entity with  
13 which the Secretary of Defense and the Secretary of Labor  
14 entered into the contract shall submit to the Secretary of  
15 Defense and the Secretary of Labor a report setting forth  
16 the results of the study. The report shall include—

17 (1) a plan for leveraging existing successful ini-  
18 tiatives, programs, and authority to promote the  
19 credentialing of all members of the Armed Forces;  
20 and

21 (2) such information as the Secretaries shall  
22 specify in the contract.

23 (c) SUBMITTAL TO CONGRESS.—Not later than  
24 March 31, 2012, the Secretary of Defense and the Sec-  
25 retary of Labor shall jointly submit to Congress a report

1 on the results of the study described in subsection (a),  
2 together with such comments on the report as the Secre-  
3 taries jointly consider appropriate.

4 **TITLE IV—IMPROVEMENTS TO**  
5 **UNIFORMED SERVICES EM-**  
6 **PLOYMENT AND REEMPLOY-**  
7 **MENT RIGHTS**

8 **SEC. 401. CLARIFICATION OF BENEFITS OF EMPLOYMENT**  
9 **COVERED UNDER USERRA.**

10 Section 4303(2) of title 38, United States Code, is  
11 amended by inserting “the terms, conditions, or privileges  
12 of employment, including” after “means”.

13 **TITLE V—OTHER MATTERS**

14 **SEC. 501. EXTENSION OF CERTAIN EXPIRING PROVISIONS**  
15 **OF LAW.**

16 (a) **ADJUSTABLE RATE MORTGAGES.**—Section  
17 3707(a) of such title is amended by striking “2012” and  
18 inserting “2014”.

19 (b) **HYBRID ADJUSTABLE RATE MORTGAGES.**—Sec-  
20 tion 3707A(a) of such title is amended by striking “2012”  
21 and inserting “2014”.

22 (c) **POOL OF MORTGAGE LOANS.**—Section  
23 3720(h)(2) of title 38, United States Code, is amended  
24 by striking “December 31, 2011” and inserting “Decem-  
25 ber 31, 2016”.

1 (d) LOAN FEES.—

2 (1) EXTENSION OF FEES.—Section 3729(b)(2)  
3 of such title is amended—

4 (A) in subparagraph (A)—

5 (i) in clause (iii), by striking “Novem-  
6 ber 18, 2011” and inserting “October 1,  
7 2017”; and

8 (ii) in clause (iv), by striking “Novem-  
9 ber 18, 2011” and inserting “October 1,  
10 2017”;

11 (B) in subparagraph (B)—

12 (i) in clause (i), by striking “Novem-  
13 ber 18, 2011” and inserting “October 1,  
14 2017”;

15 (ii) by striking clauses (ii) and (iii)  
16 and redesignating clause (iv) as clause (ii);  
17 and

18 (iii) in clause (ii), as so redesignated,  
19 by striking “October 1, 2013” and insert-  
20 ing “October 1, 2017”;

21 (C) in subparagraph (C)—

22 (i) in clause (i), by striking “Novem-  
23 ber 18, 2011” and inserting “October 1,  
24 2017”; and

1 (ii) in clause (ii), by striking “Novem-  
2 ber 18, 2011” and inserting “October 1,  
3 2017”; and

4 (D) in subparagraph (D)—

5 (i) in clause (i), by striking “Novem-  
6 ber 18, 2011” and inserting “October 1,  
7 2017”; and

8 (ii) in clause (ii), by striking “Novem-  
9 ber 18, 2011” and inserting “October 1,  
10 2017”.

11 (2) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made  
12 by paragraph (1) shall take effect on the later of—

13 (A) October 1, 2011; or

14 (B) the date of the enactment of this Act.

15 (e) TEMPORARY ADJUSTMENT OF MAXIMUM HOME  
16 LOAN GUARANTY AMOUNT.—Section 501 of the Veterans  
17 Benefits Improvement Act of 2008 (Public Law 110–389;  
18 122 Stat. 4175; 38 U.S.C. 3703 note) is amended by  
19 striking “December 31, 2011” and inserting “December  
20 31, 2014”.

1 **SEC. 502. DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS HOUSING**  
2 **LOAN GUARANTEES FOR SURVIVING**  
3 **SPOUSES OF CERTAIN TOTALLY DISABLED**  
4 **VETERANS.**

5 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 3701(b) of title 38,  
6 United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the  
7 following new paragraph:

8 “(6) The term ‘veteran’ also includes, for pur-  
9 poses of home loans, the surviving spouse of a de-  
10 ceased veteran who dies and who was in receipt of  
11 or entitled to receive (or but for the receipt of re-  
12 tired or retirement pay was entitled to receive) com-  
13 pensation at the time of death for a service-con-  
14 nected disability rated totally disabling if—

15 “(A) the disability was continuously rated  
16 totally disabling for a period of 10 or more  
17 years immediately preceding death;

18 “(B) the disability was continuously rated  
19 totally disabling for a period of not less than  
20 five years from the date of such veteran’s dis-  
21 charge or other release from active duty; or

22 “(C) the veteran was a former prisoner of  
23 war who died after September 30, 1999, and  
24 the disability was continuously rated totally dis-  
25 abling for a period of not less than one year im-  
26 mediately preceding death.”.

1 (b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by  
2 subsection (a) shall apply with respect to a loan guaran-  
3 teed after the date of the enactment of this Act.

4 (c) CLARIFICATION WITH RESPECT TO CERTAIN  
5 FEES.—Fees shall be collected under section 3729 of title  
6 38, United States Code, from a person described in para-  
7 graph (6) of subsection (b) of section 3701 of such title,  
8 as added by subsection (a), in the same manner as such  
9 fees are collected from a person described in paragraph  
10 (2) of such subsection.

11 **SEC. 503. REIMBURSEMENT RATE FOR AMBULANCE SERV-**  
12 **ICES.**

13 Section 111(b)(3) of title 38, United States Code, is  
14 amended by adding at the end the following new subpara-  
15 graph:

16 “(C) In the case of transportation of a person under  
17 subparagraph (B) by ambulance, the Secretary may pay  
18 the provider of the transportation the lesser of the actual  
19 charge for the transportation or the amount determined  
20 by the fee schedule established under section 1834(l) of  
21 the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395(l)) unless the  
22 Secretary has entered into a contract for that transpor-  
23 tation with the provider.”.

1 **SEC. 504. ANNUAL REPORTS ON POST-9/11 EDUCATIONAL**  
2 **ASSISTANCE PROGRAM AND SURVIVORS' AND**  
3 **DEPENDENTS' EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE**  
4 **PROGRAM.**

5 (a) REPORTS REQUIRED.—

6 (1) IN GENERAL.—Subchapter III of chapter  
7 33 of title 38, United States Code, is amended by  
8 adding at the end the following new section:

9 **“§ 3325. Reporting requirement**

10 “(a) IN GENERAL.—For each academic year—

11 “(1) the Secretary of Defense shall submit to  
12 Congress a report on the operation of the program  
13 provided for in this chapter; and

14 “(2) the Secretary shall submit to Congress a  
15 report on the operation of the program provided for  
16 in this chapter and the program provided for under  
17 chapter 35 of this title.

18 “(b) CONTENTS OF SECRETARY OF DEFENSE RE-  
19 PORTS.—The Secretary of Defense shall include in each  
20 report submitted under this section—

21 “(1) information indicating—

22 “(A) the extent to which the benefit levels  
23 provided under this chapter are adequate to  
24 achieve the purposes of inducing individuals to  
25 enter and remain in the Armed Forces and of  
26 providing an adequate level of financial assist-

1           ance to help meet the cost of pursuing a pro-  
2           gram of education;

3           “(B) whether it is necessary for the pur-  
4           poses of maintaining adequate levels of well-  
5           qualified active-duty personnel in the Armed  
6           Forces to continue to offer the opportunity for  
7           educational assistance under this chapter to in-  
8           dividuals who have not yet entered active-duty  
9           service; and

10           “(C) describing the efforts under section  
11           3323(b) of this title to inform members of the  
12           Armed Forces of the active duty service require-  
13           ments for entitlement to educational assistance  
14           benefits under this chapter and the results from  
15           such efforts; and

16           “(2) such recommendations for administrative  
17           and legislative changes regarding the provision of  
18           educational assistance to members of the Armed  
19           Forces and veterans, and their dependents, as the  
20           Secretary of Defense considers appropriate.

21           “(c) CONTENTS OF SECRETARY OF VETERANS AF-  
22           FAIRS REPORTS.—The Secretary shall include in each re-  
23           port submitted under this section—

24           “(1) information concerning the level of utiliza-  
25           tion of educational assistance and of expenditures

1 under this chapter and under chapter 35 of this  
2 title;

3 “(2) the number of credit hours, certificates,  
4 degrees, and other qualifications earned by bene-  
5 ficiaries under this chapter and under chapter 35 of  
6 this title during the academic year covered by the re-  
7 port; and

8 “(3) such recommendations for administrative  
9 and legislative changes regarding the provision of  
10 educational assistance to members of the Armed  
11 Forces and veterans, and their dependents, as the  
12 Secretary considers appropriate.

13 “(d) TERMINATION.—No report shall be required  
14 under this section after January 1, 2021.”.

15 (2) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sec-  
16 tions at the beginning of such chapter is amended  
17 by inserting after the item relating to section 3324  
18 the following new item:

“3325. Reporting requirement.”.

19 (3) DEADLINE FOR SUBMITTAL OF FIRST RE-  
20 PORT.—The first reports required under section  
21 3325 of title 38, United States Code, as added by  
22 paragraph (1), shall be submitted by not later than  
23 November 1, 2012, and shall cover the 2011-2012  
24 academic year.

1 (b) REPEAL OF REPORT ON ALL VOLUNTEER-FORCE  
2 EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM.—

3 (1) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 30 of such title is  
4 amended by striking section 3036.

5 (2) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sec-  
6 tions at the beginning of such chapter is amended  
7 by striking the item relating to section 3036.

8 **SEC. 505. LIMITATION ON AMOUNT AUTHORIZED TO BE AP-**  
9 **PROPRIATED FOR EMPLOYEE TRAVEL,**  
10 **PRINTING, AND FLEET VEHICLES.**

11 The amount authorized to be appropriated for the  
12 Department of Veterans Affairs for employee travel, print-  
13 ing, and fleet vehicles for fiscal year 2012 shall not exceed  
14 \$385,000,000.

15 **SEC. 506. EXTENSION OF REDUCED PENSION FOR CERTAIN**  
16 **VETERANS COVERED BY MEDICAID PLANS**  
17 **FOR SERVICES FURNISHED BY NURSING FA-**  
18 **CILITIES.**

19 Section 5503(d)(7) of title 38, United States Code,  
20 is amended by striking “May 31, 2015” and inserting  
21 “May 31, 2016”.

22 **SEC. 507. STATUTORY PAY-AS-YOU-GO-ACT OF 2010.**

23 The budgetary effects of this Act, for the purpose of  
24 complying with the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go-Act of 2010,  
25 shall be determined by reference to the latest statement

1 titled “Budgetary Effects of PAYGO Legislation” for this  
2 Act, submitted for printing in the Congressional Record  
3 by the Chairman of the House Budget Committee, pro-  
4 vided that such statement has been submitted prior to the  
5 vote on passage