

115TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2738

To amend title 38, United States Code, to improve the approval of certain programs of education for purposes of educational assistance provided by the Department of Veterans Affairs.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 25, 2017

Mr. TAKANO introduced the following bill; which was referred to the
Committee on Veterans' Affairs

A BILL

To amend title 38, United States Code, to improve the approval of certain programs of education for purposes of educational assistance provided by the Department of Veterans Affairs.

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

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Career-Ready Student
5 Veterans Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. APPROVAL OF COURSES FOR PURPOSES OF EDU-**
2 **CATIONAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS ADMINIS-**
3 **TERED BY SECRETARY OF VETERANS AF-**
4 **FAIRS.**

5 (a) APPROVAL OF NON-ACCREDITED COURSES.—
6 Subsection (c) of section 3676 of title 38, United States
7 Code, is amended—

8 (1) by redesignating paragraph (14) as para-
9 graph (16); and

10 (2) by inserting after paragraph (13) the fol-
11 lowing new paragraphs:

12 “(14) In the case of a program designed to pre-
13 pare an individual for licensure or certification in a
14 State, the program meets any instructional cur-
15 riculum licensure or certification requirements of
16 such State.

17 “(15) In the case of a program designed to pre-
18 pare an individual for employment pursuant to
19 standards developed by a board or agency of a State
20 in an occupation that requires approval or licensure,
21 the program is approved or licensed by such board
22 or agency of the State.”.

23 (b) EXCEPTIONS.—Such section is further amended
24 by adding at the end the following new subsection:

25 “(f)(1) The Secretary may waive the requirements of
26 paragraph (14) or (15) of subsection (c) in the case of

1 a program of education offered by an educational institu-
2 tion if the Secretary determines all of the following:

3 “(A) The educational institution is not accred-
4 ited by an agency or association recognized by the
5 Secretary of Education.

6 “(B) The program did not meet the require-
7 ments of such paragraph at any time during the
8 two-year period preceding the date of the waiver.

9 “(C) The waiver furthers the purposes of the
10 educational assistance programs administered by the
11 Secretary or would further the education interests of
12 individuals eligible for assistance under such pro-
13 grams.

14 “(D) The educational institution does not pro-
15 vide any commission, bonus, or other incentive pay-
16 ment based directly or indirectly on success in secur-
17 ing enrollments or financial aid to any persons or
18 entities engaged in any student recruiting or admis-
19 sion activities or in making decisions regarding the
20 award of student financial assistance, except for the
21 recruitment of foreign students residing in foreign
22 countries who are not eligible to receive Federal stu-
23 dent assistance.

24 “(2) Not later than 30 days after the Secretary issues
25 a waiver under paragraph (1), the Secretary shall submit

1 to Congress notice of the waiver and the justification of
2 the Secretary for issuing the waiver.”.

3 (c) APPROVAL OF ACCREDITED PROGRAMS.—Section
4 3675(b)(3) of such title is amended—

5 (1) by striking “and (3)” and inserting “(3),
6 (14), and (15)”; and

7 (2) by inserting before the period at the end the
8 following: “(or, with respect to such paragraphs (14)
9 and (15), the requirements under such paragraphs
10 are waived pursuant to subsection (f) of section
11 3676)”.

12 (d) DISAPPROVAL OF COURSES.—Section 3679 of
13 such title is amended by adding at the end the following
14 new subsection:

15 “(d) Notwithstanding any other provision of this
16 chapter, the Secretary shall disapprove a course of edu-
17 cation described in section 3676(c) (14) or (15) unless the
18 educational institution providing the course of education
19 publicly discloses any conditions or additional require-
20 ments, including training, experience, or exams, required
21 to obtain the license, certification, or approval for which
22 the course of education is designed to provide prepara-
23 tion.”.

24 (e) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section
25 3672(b)(2)(A)(i) of such title is amended by striking “An

1 accredited” and inserting “Except as provided in para-
2 graphs (14) and (15) of section 3676(c) of this title, an
3 accredited”.

4 (f) APPLICABILITY.—If after enrollment in a course
5 of education that is subject to disapproval by reason of
6 an amendment made by this Act, an individual pursues
7 one or more courses of education at the same educational
8 institution while remaining continuously enrolled (other
9 than during regularly scheduled breaks between courses,
10 semesters or terms) at that institution, any course so pur-
11 sued by the individual at that institution while so continu-
12 ously enrolled shall not be subject to disapproval by reason
13 of such amendment.

○