

116TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 6194

To authorize the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to treat certain programs of education converted to distance learning by reason of emergencies and health-related situations in the same manner as programs of education pursued at educational institutions, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 11, 2020

Mr. DAVID P. ROE of Tennessee introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs

A BILL

To authorize the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to treat certain programs of education converted to distance learning by reason of emergencies and health-related situations in the same manner as programs of education pursued at educational institutions, 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. CONTINUATION OF DEPARTMENT OF VET-**
2 **ERANS AFFAIRS EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE**
3 **BENEFITS FOR CERTAIN PROGRAMS OF EDU-**
4 **CATION CONVERTED TO DISTANCE LEARN-**
5 **ING BY REASON OF EMERGENCIES AND**
6 **HEALTH-RELATED SITUATIONS.**

7 (a) IN GENERAL.—In the case of a program of edu-
8 cation approved by a State approving agency, or the Sec-
9 retary of Veterans Affairs when acting in the role of a
10 State approving agency, that is converted from being of-
11 fered on-site at an educational institution to being offered
12 by distance learning by reason of an emergency or health-
13 related situation, as determined by the Secretary, the Sec-
14 retary may continue to provide educational assistance
15 under the laws administered by the Secretary without re-
16 gard to such conversion, including with respect to paying
17 any—

18 (1) monthly housing stipends under chapter 33
19 of title 38, United States Code; or

20 (2) payments or subsistence allowances under
21 chapter 31 of such title.

22 (b) APPLICABILITY PERIOD.—Subsection (a) shall
23 apply during the period beginning on March 1, 2020, and
24 ending on December 21, 2020.

25 (c) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

1 (1) The term “educational institution” has the
2 meaning given that term in section 3452 of title 38,
3 United States Code, and includes an institution of
4 higher learning (as defined in such section).

5 (2) The term “program of education” has the
6 meaning given that term in section 3002 of title 38,
7 United States Code.

8 (3) The term “State approving agency” has the
9 meaning given that term in section 3671 of title 38,
10 United States Code.

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