

116TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 2248

To amend title 10, United States Code, to redesignate and expand the Troops-to-Teachers Program, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JULY 24, 2019

Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Armed Services

A BILL

To amend title 10, United States Code, to redesignate and expand the Troops-to-Teachers Program, 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.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Heroes Entering Roles
5 Of Education Service Act” or the “HEROES Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. REDESIGNATION AND EXPANSION OF TROOPS-TO-**
7 **TEACHERS PROGRAM.**

8 (a) REDESIGNATION AS TROOPS-TO-SUPPORT-EDU-
9 CATION PROGRAM.—

1 (1) IN GENERAL.—Section 1154 of title 10,
2 United States Code, is amended—

3 (A) in subsection (a)(6), by striking
4 “Troops-to-Teachers Program” and inserting
5 “Troops-to-Support-Education Program”; and

6 (B) in subsection (b), by striking “Troops-
7 to-Teachers Program” and inserting “Troops-
8 to-Support-Education Program”.

9 (2) REFERENCES.—Any reference in Federal
10 law (other than this Act), regulations, guidance, in-
11 structions, or other documents of the Federal Gov-
12 ernment to the Troops-to-Teachers Program shall be
13 deemed to be a reference to the Troops-to-Support-
14 Education Program.

15 (b) DEFINITIONS.—Subsection (a) of such section is
16 further amended—

17 (1) by redesignating paragraphs (7) and (8) as
18 paragraphs (9) and (10), respectively;

19 (2) by inserting after paragraph (6) the fol-
20 lowing new paragraphs:

21 “(7) QUALIFYING POSITION.—(A) Except as
22 provided in subparagraph (B), the term ‘qualifying
23 position’ means any full-time position in an eligible
24 school, including a position as—

1 “(i) a teacher, including an elementary
 2 school teacher, a secondary school teacher, or a
 3 career or technical education teacher;

4 “(ii) a school resource officer;

5 “(iii) a school leader;

6 “(iv) specialized instructional support per-
 7 sonnel;

8 “(v) a paraprofessional; or

9 “(vi) other staff.

10 “(B) Such term does not include a position that
 11 is—

12 “(i) performed primarily at a location out-
 13 side the grounds of an eligible school; or

14 “(ii) held by an individual who is employed
 15 by a contractor.

16 “(8) SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER.—The term
 17 ‘school resource officer’ has the meaning given that
 18 term in section 1709(4) of the Omnibus Crime Con-
 19 trol and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (34 U.S.C.
 20 10389(4)).”; and

21 (3) by amending paragraph (10), as redesign-
 22 nated by paragraph (1) of this subsection, to read
 23 as follows:

24 “(10) ADDITIONAL TERMS.—The terms ‘ele-
 25 mentary school’, ‘local educational agency’, ‘other

1 staff”, ‘paraprofessional’, ‘school leader’, ‘secondary
 2 school’, ‘specialized instructional support personnel’,
 3 and ‘State’ have the meanings given those terms in
 4 section 8101 of the Elementary and Secondary Edu-
 5 cation Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7801).”.

6 (c) EXPANSION OF PROGRAM GENERALLY.—Sub-
 7 section (b) of such section is amended—

8 (1) in paragraph (1), by striking “become a
 9 teacher” and inserting “obtain a qualifying posi-
 10 tion”; and

11 (2) in paragraph (2)(A)—

12 (A) in clause (i), by striking “or” at the
 13 end;

14 (B) in clause (ii), by striking “and” at the
 15 end and inserting “or”; and

16 (C) by adding at the end the following new
 17 clause:

18 “(iii) experiencing a shortage of
 19 personnel to fill qualifying positions;
 20 and”.

21 (d) SELECTION CRITERIA FOR PARTICIPANTS.—Sub-
 22 section (d)(3) of such section is amended—

23 (1) by redesignating subparagraph (D) as sub-
 24 paragraph (E); and

1 (2) by inserting after subparagraph (C) the fol-
 2 lowing new subparagraph (D):

3 “(D) If a member of the armed forces is apply-
 4 ing for the Program to receive assistance for place-
 5 ment in a qualifying position other than a position
 6 as a teacher described in subparagraph (B) or (C),
 7 the Secretary shall require the member to obtain the
 8 professional credentials that are required by the
 9 State for the position involved.”.

10 (e) PARTICIPATION AGREEMENT AND ASSISTANCE.—

11 Subsection (e) of such section is amended—

12 (1) in paragraph (1)(A)—

13 (A) in clause (i), by striking “become a
 14 teacher” and inserting “obtain a qualifying po-
 15 sition”; and

16 (B) in clause (ii), by striking “as an ele-
 17 mentary school teacher” and all that follows
 18 through the period at the end and inserting “in
 19 a qualifying position for not less than three
 20 school years in an eligible school to begin the
 21 school year after the member obtains the pro-
 22 fessional credentials required for the position
 23 involved.”;

24 (2) in paragraph (2)(E), by striking “as a
 25 teacher in an eligible elementary school or secondary

1 school or as a career or technical teacher” and in-
 2 serting “in a qualifying position”; and

3 (3) in paragraph (3)—

4 (A) in subparagraph (A), by striking “edu-
 5 cational level, certification, or licensing” and in-
 6 serting “educational level, certification, licens-
 7 ing, or other professional credentials”;

8 (B) in subparagraph (B)(i), by striking
 9 “as an elementary school teacher, secondary
 10 school teacher, or career or technical teacher”
 11 and inserting “in a qualifying position”; and

12 (C) in subparagraph (C)—

13 (i) in clause (i), by striking “5,000”
 14 and inserting “7,500”; and

15 (ii) in clause (ii), by striking “3,000”
 16 and inserting “4,500”.

17 (f) REIMBURSEMENT.—Subsection (f)(1) of such sec-
 18 tion is amended—

19 (1) in subparagraph (A)—

20 (A) by striking “become a teacher” and in-
 21 serting “obtain a qualifying position”; and

22 (B) by striking “as an elementary school
 23 teacher, secondary school teacher, or career or
 24 technical teacher” and insert “in a qualifying
 25 position”; and

1 (2) in subparagraph (B), by striking “, employ-
 2 ment as an elementary school teacher, secondary
 3 school teacher, or career or technical teacher” and
 4 inserting “employment in a qualifying position”.

5 (g) PARTICIPATION BY STATES.—Subsection
 6 (h)(2)(A) of such section is amended by striking “as ele-
 7 mentary school teachers, secondary school teachers, and
 8 career or technical teachers” and inserting “in qualifying
 9 positions”.

10 (h) PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS.—Such section
 11 is further amended—

12 (1) by redesignating subsection (i) as subsection
 13 (j); and

14 (2) by inserting after subsection (h) the fol-
 15 lowing new subsection (i):

16 “(i) PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS.—

17 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may enter
 18 into one or more partnerships with nonprofit enti-
 19 ties, including veterans service organizations, to as-
 20 sist with the placement of participants in eligible
 21 schools in accordance with this section.

22 “(2) NONPROFIT ENTITY DEFINED.—In this
 23 subsection, the term ‘nonprofit entity’ means an en-
 24 tity qualifying as an exempt organization under sec-

1 tion 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of
2 1986.”.

3 (i) FUNDING LIMITATION.—Subsection (j) of such
4 section, as redesignated by subsection (h)(1) of this sec-
5 tion, is amended by striking “\$15,000,000” and inserting
6 “\$20,000,000”.

7 (j) CONFORMING AND CLERICAL AMENDMENTS.—

8 (1) HEADING AMENDMENT.—The heading of
9 such section is amended to read as follows:

10 **“§ 1154. Assistance to eligible members and former**
11 **members to obtain employment in**
12 **schools: Troops-to-Support-Education**
13 **Program”.**

14 (2) TABLE OF SECTIONS.—The table of sections
15 at the beginning of chapter 58 of such title is
16 amended by striking the item relating to section
17 1154 and inserting the following new item:

 “1154. Assistance to eligible members and former members to obtain employ-
 ment in schools: Troops-to-Support-Education Program.”.

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