

EDITH NOURSE ROGERS STEM SCHOLARSHIP
OPPORTUNITY ACT

SEPTEMBER 9, 2025.—Committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State
of the Union and ordered to be printed

Mr. BOST, from the Committee on Veterans’ Affairs,
submitted the following

R E P O R T

[To accompany H.R. 2034]

[Including cost estimate of the Congressional Budget Office]

The Committee on Veterans’ Affairs, to whom was referred the bill (H.R. 2034) to amend title 38, United States Code, to modify the requirements of the Edith Nourse Rogers STEM Scholarship, having considered the same, reports favorably thereon with an amendment and recommends that the bill as amended do pass.

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The amendment is as follows:

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Edith Nourse Rogers STEM Scholarship Opportunity Act”.

SEC. 2. MODIFICATIONS TO EDITH NOURSE ROGERS STEM SCHOLARSHIP.

Section 3320 of title 38, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in subsection (b)—

(A) by striking paragraph (2);

(B) by redesignating paragraphs (3) and (4) as paragraphs (2) and (3), respectively; and

(C) in paragraph (3), as so redesignated, in subparagraph (A)(ii)—

(i) by striking “60” and inserting “45”; and

(ii) by striking “90” and inserting “67.5”;

(2) in subsection (c)(1)—

(A) by redesignating subparagraphs (A) and (B) as subparagraphs (C) and (D), respectively; and

(B) by inserting before subparagraph (C), as so redesignated, the following new subparagraphs:

“(A) Individuals who have used the most number of months of the educational assistance to which they are entitled under this chapter.

“(B) Individuals who are using their entitlement under this chapter to pursue a program of post-secondary education and who have declared a major in a field referred to in subsection (b)(3)(A)(i).”; and

(3) in subsection (d), by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

“(5) An individual who receives a benefit under this section may only use such benefit after the individual has used all of the educational assistance to which the individual is entitled under this chapter.”.

SEC. 3. EXTENSION OF CERTAIN LIMITS ON PAYMENTS OF PENSION.

Section 5503(d)(7) of title 38, United States Code, is amended by striking “November 30, 2031” and inserting “March 31, 2033”.

PURPOSE AND SUMMARY

H.R. 2034, the “Edith Nourse Rogers STEM Scholarship Opportunity Act” was introduced by Representative Nikki Budzinski of Illinois on March 11, 2025. The bill, as amended, would make changes to the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) post-9/11 GI Bill by reducing the minimum number of credit hours from 60 to 45 required by applicants to apply for the Edith Nourse Rogers STEM scholarship program. The legislation would also remove the eligibility restriction that applicants of the scholarship must have exhausted post-9/11 GI Bill benefits within six months to qualify.

Finally, the bill, as amended, would also provide an offset for the cost of these program changes by extending the current law restricting the amount of pension paid to VA pension beneficiaries who are admitted to a VA or Medicaid sponsored nursing facility.

BACKGROUND AND NEED FOR LEGISLATION

Section 1. Short title

This Act may be cited as the “Edith Nourse Rogers STEM Scholarship Opportunity Act”.

Section 2. Modifications to the Edith Nourse Rogers STEM Scholarship

This section aims to reduce barriers for otherwise eligible students to participate in the scholarship program by reducing the number of required credit hours. In return, the Committee believes this would raise overall participation in the education and job

training program for veterans. Recent reporting from the Government Accountability Office (GAO) found that student veterans often see a high rate of denials for eligibility for the program due to credit hour limitations and the current requirement for student veterans to have exhausted their post-9/11 GI Bill benefits.¹

Over the past 3 years, 3,500 veterans have used the Edith Nourse Rogers STEM scholarship to continue pursuing certain degrees after exhausting their post-9/11 GI Bill benefits. Most of these veterans were pursuing degrees in computer sciences, health professions, or engineering. The Congressional Budget Office (CBO) estimates that this legislation would increase participation in the scholarship program by ten to fifteen percent.

Section 3. Extension of Certain Limits on Payments of Pension

Under current law (38 U.S.C. § 5503(d)), the amount of VA pension paid to a veteran with no spouse or child, a veteran's surviving spouses with no child, or a veteran's child who is admitted to a VA or Medicaid sponsored nursing facility is capped at \$90 a month. This section would cover the costs of the other sections of this bill by extending this pension limitation from November 30, 2031, to March 31, 2033. Because they receive government sponsored care in a nursing home, these pension beneficiaries do not require the full amount of pension to cover their cost of living. The Committee believes this short-term extension of the current limit on pension payments is a reasonable way to cover the costs associated with the other sections of this bill.

HEARINGS

On June 11, 2025, the Committee on Veterans Affairs Subcommittee on Economic Opportunity held a legislative hearing on H.R. 2034 and other bills pending before the subcommittee.

The following witnesses testified:

Dr. Liz Clark, Acting Director, Defense Support Services, U.S. Department of Defense, Mr. Nick Pamperin, Executive Director, Veterans Readiness and Employment, U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, who was accompanied by Mr. Thomas Alphonso, Assistant Director of Policy and Implementation, Education Service, U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, Mr. Andrew Petrie, Senior Policy Analyst, Veterans Education and Employment Division, The American Legion, Mr. Blaze Smith, Director, Veterans Education and Transition Center, The University of Arizona, Mr. Matthew Schwartzman, Director, Legislation and Military Policy, Reserve Organization of America, Ms. Ashlynn Haycock-Lohmann, Director, Government and Legislative Affairs, Tragedy Assistance Program for Survivors (TAPS).

The following individuals and organizations submitted statements for the record:

Dr. Joseph W. Wescott, National Legislative Liaison, National Association of State Approving Agencies (NASAA), Mr. Will Hubbard, Vice President for Veterans and Military Policy, Veterans Education Success (VES), Ms. Julie Howell, Associate

¹GAO-24-106492, HIGHER EDUCATION: VA Should Provide Additional Information to Its Staff and Schools on the Rogers STEM Scholarship.

Legislative Director for Governmental Relations, Paralyzed Veterans of America (PVA), Mr. Jake Fales, Senior Policy Fellow, and Hannah Miller, Policy and Communications Fellow, Reserve Organization of America (ROA), Ms. Tammy Barlet, Vice President of Government Affairs, Student Veterans of America (SVA), Ms. Kristina Keenan, Director, National Legislative Service, Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States (VFW).

SUBCOMMITTEE CONSIDERATION

On July 23, 2025, the Subcommittee on Economic Opportunity was discharged from further consideration of H.R. 2034.

COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION

On July 23, 2025, the full Committee met in open markup session, a quorum being present, and ordered H.R. 2034, as amended, to be reported favorably to the House of Representatives by voice vote. During consideration of the bill, the following amendment was considered and agreed to by voice vote:

An amendment in the nature of a substitute offered by Representative Nikki Budzinski of Illinois, which would offset the cost of the bill using the pension offset. This amendment in the nature of a substitute was agreed to by voice vote.

A motion by Ranking Member Takano of California to favorably forward H.R. 2034 to the full Committee on Veterans' Affairs was adopted by voice vote.

COMMITTEE VOTES

In compliance with clause 3(b) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, there were no recorded votes taken on amendments or in connection with ordering H.R. 2034, as amended, reported to the House.

COMMITTEE OVERSIGHT FINDINGS

In compliance with clause 3(c)(1) of rule XIII and clause (2)(b)(1) of rule X of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the Committee's oversight findings and recommendations are reflected in the descriptive portions of this report.

STATEMENT OF GENERAL PERFORMANCE GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

In accordance with clause 3(c)(4) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the Committee's performance goals and objectives are to allow more veterans to pursue STEM careers and limit restrictions in the field of study.

NEW BUDGET AUTHORITY, ENTITLEMENT AUTHORITY, AND TAX EXPENDITURES

In compliance with clause 3(c)(2) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the Committee adopts as its own the estimate of new budget authority, entitlement authority, or tax expenditures or revenues contained in the cost estimate prepared by the Director of the Congressional Budget Office pursuant to section 402 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974.

EARMARKS AND TAX AND TARIFF BENEFITS

H.R. 2034, as amended, does not contain any Congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits as defined in clause 9 of rule XXI of the Rules of the House of Representatives.

COMMITTEE COST ESTIMATE

The Committee adopts as its own the cost estimate on H.R. 2034 as amended, prepared by the Director of the Congressional Budget Office pursuant to section 402 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974.

CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

Pursuant to clause 3(c)(3) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the following is the cost estimate for H.R. 2034, as amended, provided by the Director of the Congressional Budget Office pursuant to section 402 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974:

H.R. 2034, Edith Nourse Rogers STEM Scholarship Opportunity Act			
As ordered reported by the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs on July 23, 2025			
By Fiscal Year, Millions of Dollars	2025	2025-2030	2025-2035
Direct Spending (Outlays)	0	28	-3
Revenues	0	0	0
Increase or Decrease (-) in the Deficit	0	28	-3
Spending Subject to Appropriation (Outlays)	0	0	0
Increases <i>net direct spending</i> in any of the four consecutive 10-year periods beginning in 2036?	< \$2.5 billion	Statutory pay-as-you-go procedures apply?	Yes
		Mandate Effects	
Increases <i>on-budget deficits</i> in any of the four consecutive 10-year periods beginning in 2036?	< \$5 billion	Contains intergovernmental mandate?	No
		Contains private-sector mandate?	No

H.R. 2034 would make changes to education benefit and pension programs administered by the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA). The costs of both programs are paid from mandatory appropriations and thus are reflected in the budget as direct spending. CBO estimates that enacting the bill would decrease net direct spending by \$3 million over the 2025–2035 period (see Table 1). The budgetary effects of the legislation fall within budget functions 550 (health) and 700 (veterans benefits and services).

STEM Scholarships: Under the Post-9/11 GI Bill, VA pays tuition for students pursuing approved education programs and may also provide a housing allowance and book stipend. Beneficiaries can receive that assistance for up to 36 months. Through the Edith Nourse Rogers STEM Scholarship, the department can provide up to nine additional months of those benefits (up to a maximum of \$30,000) to eligible students who pursue qualified undergraduate degrees in science, technology, engineering, mathematics, health care, or other fields approved by VA. In addition to other criteria, to be eligible for that scholarship, students must have completed at

least 60 semester (or 90 quarter) credit hours and have less than six months of remaining GI Bill benefits.

Section 2 would make it easier for students to qualify for that scholarship by reducing the number of credit hours that they must have completed by 25 percent and by eliminating the requirement that they have less than six months of GI Bill benefits remaining. On the basis of information provided by VA, CBO expects that roughly 450 more students would become eligible for and use the scholarship each year at an average of approximately \$13,500 per student, for a total cost of \$61 million over the 2025–2035 period.

Pensions and Medicaid: Under current law, VA reduces pension payments to veterans and survivors who reside in Medicaid nursing homes to \$90 per month. That required reduction expires November 30, 2031. Section 3 of H.R. 2034 would extend that reduction for 16 months, through March 31, 2033. CBO estimates that extending that requirement would reduce VA benefits by \$10 million per month. As a result of that reduction in beneficiaries’ income, Medicaid would pay more of the cost of their care, increasing spending for that program by \$6 million per month. Thus, enacting section 3 would reduce net direct spending by \$64 million over the 2025–2035 period.

TABLE 1.—ESTIMATED DIRECT SPENDING UNDER H.R. 2034

	Outlays by fiscal year, millions of dollars—												
	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033	2034	2035	2025– 2030	2025– 2035
STEM Scholarships ...	0	5	5	6	6	6	6	6	7	7	7	28	61
Pensions and													
Medicaid	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	–40	–24	0	0	0	–64
Total Changes	0	5	5	6	6	6	6	–34	–17	7	7	28	–3

Budget authority equals outlays for all sections.

The CBO staff contacts for this estimate are Paul B.A. Holland (for education benefits) and Logan Smith (for pensions and Medicaid). The estimate was reviewed by Christina Hawley Anthony, Deputy Director of Budget Analysis.

PHILLIP L. SWAGEL,
Director, Congressional Budget Office.

FEDERAL MANDATES STATEMENT

The Committee adopts as its own the estimate of Federal mandates regarding H.R. 2034, as amended, prepared by the Director of the Congressional Budget Office pursuant to section 423 of the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE STATEMENT

No advisory committees within the meaning of section 5(b) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act would be created by H.R. 2034, as amended.

STATEMENT OF CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY

Pursuant to Article I, section 8 of the United States Constitution, H.R. 2034, as amended, is authorized by Congress’ power to “pro-

vide for the common Defense and general Welfare of the United States.”

APPLICABILITY TO LEGISLATIVE BRANCH

The Committee finds that H.R. 2034, as amended, does not relate to the terms and conditions of employment or access to public services or accommodations within the meaning of section 102(b)(3) of the Congressional Accountability Act.

STATEMENT ON DUPLICATION OF FEDERAL PROGRAMS

Pursuant to clause 3(c)(5) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the Committee finds that no provision of H.R. 2034, as amended, establishes or reauthorizes a program of the Federal Government known to be duplicative of another Federal program, a program that was included in any report from the Government Accountability Office to Congress pursuant to section 21 of Public Law 111–139, or a program related to a program identified in the most recent Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance.

DISCLOSURE OF DIRECTED RULEMAKING

Pursuant to section 3(i) of H. Res. 5, 115th Cong. (2017), the Committee estimates that H.R. 2034, as amended, contains no directed rulemaking that would require the Secretary to prescribe regulations.

SECTION-BY-SECTION ANALYSIS OF THE LEGISLATION

Section 1. Short title

This section would establish the short title of the bill as the “Edith Nourse Rogers STEM Scholarship Opportunity Act”.

Section 2. Modifications to the Edith Nourse Rogers STEM Scholarship

This section would expand eligibility for the Edith Nourse Rodgers STEM Scholarship program by reducing the number of credit hours completed needed to meet the requirement by twenty-five percent and eliminating the requirement that applicants have less than six months of earned VA educational benefits remaining.

Section 3. Extension of certain limits on payments of pension

This section would extend the limitation of pension payable to certain veterans, their surviving spouses, and their children as established in 38 U.S.C. § 5503(d)(7) from November 30, 2031, to May 31, 2033.

CHANGES IN EXISTING LAW MADE BY THE BILL, AS REPORTED

In compliance with clause 3(e) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, changes in existing law made by the bill, as reported, are shown as follows (existing law proposed to be omitted is enclosed in black brackets, new matter is printed in italic, and existing law in which no change is proposed is shown in roman):

CHANGES IN EXISTING LAW MADE BY THE BILL, AS REPORTED

In compliance with clause 3(e) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, changes in existing law made by the bill, as reported, are shown as follows (existing law proposed to be omitted is enclosed in black brackets, new matter is printed in italics, and existing law in which no change is proposed is shown in roman):

TITLE 38, UNITED STATES CODE

* * * * *

PART III—READJUSTMENT AND RELATED BENEFITS

* * * * *

CHAPTER 33—POST-9/11 EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE

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SUBCHAPTER II—EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE

* * * * *

§ 3320. Edith Nourse Rogers STEM Scholarship

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subject to the limitation under subsection (f), the Secretary shall provide additional benefits to eligible individuals selected by the Secretary under this section. Such benefits shall be known as the “Edith Nourse Rogers STEM Scholarship”.

(b) ELIGIBILITY.—For purposes of this section, an eligible individual is an individual—

(1) who is or was entitled to educational assistance under section 3311 of this title;

[(2) who has used all of the educational assistance to which the individual is entitled under this chapter or will, based on the individual’s rate of usage, use all of such assistance within 180 days of applying for benefits under this section;]

[(3)] (2) who applies for assistance under this section; and

[(4)] (3) who—

(A) is an individual who—

(i) is enrolled in a program of education leading to a post-secondary degree that, in accordance with the guidelines of the applicable regional or national accrediting agency, requires at least the standard 120 semester (or 180 quarter) credit hours for completion in a standard, undergraduate college degree, or a dual degree program that includes such an undergraduate college degree, in—

(I) biological or biomedical science;

(II) physical science;

(III) science technologies or technicians;

(IV) computer and information science and support services;

(V) mathematics or statistics;

(VI) engineering;

(VII) engineering technologies or an engineering-related field;

(VIII) a health profession or related program;

(IX) an agriculture science program or a natural resources science program; or

(X) other subjects and fields identified by the Secretary as meeting national needs;

(ii) has completed at least **[60]** 45 standard semester (or **[90]** 67.5 quarter) credit hours in a field referred to in clause (i); or

(B) is an individual who has earned a post-secondary degree in a field referred to in subparagraph (A)(i) and is enrolled in a covered clinical training program for health care professionals or a program of education leading to a teaching certification; or

(C) is an individual who has earned a graduate degree in a field referred to in subparagraph (A)(i) and is enrolled in a covered clinical training program for health care professionals.

(c) **PRIORITY.**—(1) If the Secretary determines that there are insufficient funds available in a fiscal year to provide additional benefits under this section to all eligible individuals, the Secretary may give priority to the following eligible individuals:

(A) *Individuals who have used the most number of months of the educational assistance to which they are entitled under this chapter.*

(B) *Individuals who are using their entitlement under this chapter to pursue a program of post-secondary education and who have declared a major in a field referred to in subsection (b)(3)(A)(i).*

[(A)] (C) Individuals who require the most credit hours described in subsection (b)(4).

[(B)] (D) Individuals who are entitled to educational assistance under this chapter by reason of paragraph (1), (2), (8), (9), (10), or (11) of section 3311(b) of this title.

(2) The Secretary shall give priority to individuals under paragraph (1) in the following order:

(A) Individuals who are enrolled in a program of education leading to an undergraduate degree in a field referred to in subsection (b)(4)(A)(i).

(B) Individuals who are enrolled in a program of education leading to a teaching certificate.

(C) Individuals who are enrolled in a dual-degree program leading to both an undergraduate and graduate degree in a field referred to in subsection (b)(4)(A)(i).

(D) Individuals who have earned an undergraduate degree and are enrolled in a covered clinical training program for health care professionals.

(E) Individuals who have earned a graduate degree and are enrolled in a covered clinical training program for health care professionals.

(d) **AMOUNT OF ASSISTANCE.**—(1) The Secretary shall pay to each eligible individual who receives additional benefits under this section the monthly amount payable under section 3313 of this title for not more than 9 months of the program of education in which

the individual is enrolled (adjusted with respect to the individual pursuant to section 3313(c), as appropriate), except that the aggregate amount paid to an individual under this section may not exceed \$30,000.

(2) The Secretary may not pay to such an individual an amount in addition to the amount payable under paragraph (1) by reason of section 3317 of this title.

(3) An individual who receives additional benefits under this section may also receive amounts payable by a college or university pursuant to section 3317 of this title.

(4) Notwithstanding any other provision of this chapter or chapter 36 of this title, any additional benefits under this section may not be counted toward the aggregate period for which section 3695 of this title limits an individual's receipt of allowance or assistance.

(5) *An individual who receives a benefit under this section may only use such benefit after the individual has used all of the educational assistance to which the individual is entitled under this chapter.*

(e) PROHIBITION ON TRANSFER.—An individual who receives additional benefits under this section may not transfer any amount of such additional benefits under section 3319 of this title.

(f) MAXIMUM AMOUNT OF TOTAL ASSISTANCE.—The total amount of benefits paid to all eligible individuals under this section may not exceed—

(1) \$25,000,000 for fiscal year 2019;

(2) \$75,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2020 through 2022;
and

(3) \$100,000,000 for fiscal year 2023 and each subsequent fiscal year.

(g) CONGRESSIONAL NOTICE.—If the Secretary identifies a new subject or field pursuant to subsection (b)(4)(A)(i)(XI) as meeting a national need, the Secretary shall submit to Congress notice of such identification at least 90 days before conferring eligibility on any individual for purposes of this section on the basis of such identification, including any analysis of labor market supply and demand used in identifying the new subject or field, as applicable.

(h) COVERED CLINICAL TRAINING PROGRAM DEFINED.—In this section, the term “covered clinical training program” means any clinical training required by a health care professional to be licensed to practice in a State or locality.

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PART IV—GENERAL ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS

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CHAPTER 55—MINORS, INCOMPETENTS, AND OTHER WARDS

* * * * *

§ 5503. Hospitalized veterans and estates of incompetent institutionalized veterans

(a)(1)(A) Where any veteran having neither spouse nor child is being furnished domiciliary care by the Department, no pension in excess of \$90 per month shall be paid to or for the veteran for any period after the end of the third full calendar month following the month of admission for such care.

(B) Except as provided in subparagraph (D) of this paragraph, where any veteran having neither spouse nor child is being furnished nursing home care by the Department, no pension in excess of \$90 per month shall be paid to or for the veteran for any period after the end of the third full calendar month following the month of admission for such care. Any amount in excess of \$90 per month to which the veteran would be entitled but for the application of the preceding sentence shall be deposited in a revolving fund at the Department medical facility which furnished the veteran nursing care, and such amount shall be available for obligation without fiscal year limitation to help defray operating expenses of that facility.

(C) No pension in excess of \$90 per month shall be paid to or for a veteran having neither spouse nor child for any period after the month in which such veteran is readmitted for care described in subparagraph (A) or (B) of this paragraph and furnished by the Department if such veteran is readmitted within six months of a period of care in connection with which pension was reduced pursuant to subparagraph (A) or (B) of this paragraph.

(D) In the case of a veteran being furnished nursing home care by the Department and with respect to whom subparagraph (B) of this paragraph requires a reduction in pension, such reduction shall not be made for a period of up to three additional calendar months after the last day of the third month referred to in such subparagraph if the Secretary determines that the primary purpose for the furnishing of such care during such additional period is for the Department to provide such veteran with a prescribed program of rehabilitation services, under chapter 17 of this title, designed to restore such veteran's ability to function within such veteran's family and community. If the Secretary determines that it is necessary, after such period, for the veteran to continue such program of rehabilitation services in order to achieve the purposes of such program and that the primary purpose of furnishing nursing home care to the veteran continues to be the provision of such program to the veteran, the reduction in pension required by subparagraph (B) of this paragraph shall not be made for the number of calendar months that the Secretary determines is necessary for the veteran to achieve the purposes of such program.

(2) The provisions of paragraph (1) shall also apply to a veteran being furnished such care who has a spouse but whose pension is payable under section 1521(b) of this title. In such a case, the Secretary may apportion and pay to the spouse, upon an affirmative showing of hardship, all or any part of the amounts in excess of the amount payable to the veteran while being furnished such care which would be payable to the veteran if pension were payable under section 1521(c) of this title.

(b) Notwithstanding any other provision of this section or any other provision of law, no reduction shall be made in the pension

of any veteran for any part of the period during which the veteran is furnished hospital treatment, or institutional or domiciliary care, for Hansen's disease, by the United States or any political subdivision thereof.

(c) Where any veteran in receipt of an aid and attendance allowance described in subsection (r) or (t) of section 1114 of this title is hospitalized at Government expense, such allowance shall be discontinued from the first day of the second calendar month which begins after the date of the veteran's admission for such hospitalization for so long as such hospitalization continues. Any discontinuance required by administrative regulation, during hospitalization of a veteran by the Department, of increased pension based on need of regular aid and attendance or additional compensation based on need of regular aid and attendance as described in subsection (l) or (m) of section 1114 of this title, shall not be effective earlier than the first day of the second calendar month which begins after the date of the veteran's admission for hospitalization. In case a veteran affected by this subsection leaves a hospital against medical advice and is thereafter admitted to hospitalization within six months from the date of such departure, such allowance, increased pension, or additional compensation, as the case may be, shall be discontinued from the date of such readmission for so long as such hospitalization continues.

(d)(1) For the purposes of this subsection—

(A) the term "Medicaid plan" means a State plan for medical assistance referred to in section 1902(a) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1396a(a)); and

(B) the term "nursing facility" means a nursing facility described in section 1919 of such Act (42 U.S.C. 1396r), other than a facility that is a State home with respect to which the Secretary makes per diem payments for nursing home care pursuant to section 1741(a) of this title.

(2) If a veteran having neither spouse nor child is covered by a Medicaid plan for services furnished such veteran by a nursing facility, no pension in excess of \$90 per month shall be paid to or for the veteran for any period after the month of admission to such nursing facility.

(3) Notwithstanding any provision of title XIX of the Social Security Act, the amount of the payment paid a nursing facility pursuant to a Medicaid plan for services furnished a veteran may not be reduced by any amount of pension permitted to be paid such veteran under paragraph (2) of this subsection.

(4) A veteran is not liable to the United States for any payment of pension in excess of the amount permitted under this subsection that is paid to or for the veteran by reason of the inability or failure of the Secretary to reduce the veteran's pension under this subsection unless such inability or failure is the result of a willful concealment by the veteran of information necessary to make a reduction in pension under this subsection.

(5)(A) The provisions of this subsection shall apply with respect to a surviving spouse having no child in the same manner as they apply to a veteran having neither spouse nor child.

(B) The provisions of this subsection shall apply with respect to a child entitled to pension under section 1542 of this title in the

same manner as they apply to a veteran having neither spouse nor child.

(6) The costs of administering this subsection shall be paid for from amounts available to the Department of Veterans Affairs for the payment of compensation and pension.

(7) This subsection expires on ~~November 30, 2031~~ *March 31, 2033*.

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