

106TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 1071

To amend title 38, United States Code, to improve benefits under the Montgomery GI Bill by establishing an enhanced educational assistance program, by increasing the amount of basic educational assistance, by repealing the requirement for reduction in pay for participation in the program, by authorizing the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to make accelerated payments of basic educational assistance, and by reopening the period for certain VEAP participants to elect to participate in the program of basic educational assistance, and for other purposes.

---

## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 11, 1999

Mr. EVANS (for himself, Mr. DINGELL, Mr. FILNER, Mr. SHOWS, and Ms. BROWN of Florida) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs

---

## A BILL

To amend title 38, United States Code, to improve benefits under the Montgomery GI Bill by establishing an enhanced educational assistance program, by increasing the amount of basic educational assistance, by repealing the requirement for reduction in pay for participation in the program, by authorizing the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to make accelerated payments of basic educational assistance, and by reopening the period for certain VEAP participants to elect to participate in the program of basic educational assistance, 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 “Montgomery GI Bill  
 5 Improvements Act of 1999”.

6 **SEC. 2. ENHANCED BENEFITS UNDER MONTGOMERY GI**  
 7 **BILL FOR FOUR YEARS OF ACTIVE-DUTY**  
 8 **SERVICE.**

9 (a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 30 of title 38, United  
 10 States Code, is amended by adding at the end the follow-  
 11 ing new subchapter:

12 “SUBCHAPTER V—ENHANCED EDU-  
 13 CATIONAL ASSISTANCE

14 “§ 3041. Enhanced educational assistance entitlement

15 “(a) ENTITLEMENT.—An eligible individual is enti-  
 16 tled to enhanced educational assistance under this sub-  
 17 chapter.

18 “(b) ELIGIBLE INDIVIDUAL DEFINED.—For pur-  
 19 poses of this subchapter, the term ‘eligible individual’  
 20 means an individual who meets the service requirement  
 21 described in subsection (c) and whose status after comple-  
 22 tion of such service is described in section 3011(a)(3) of  
 23 this title. Such term does not include an individual de-  
 24 scribed in paragraph (1) or (2) of section 3011(c) of this  
 25 title.

1       “(c) SERVICE REQUIREMENT.—(1) The service re-  
2       quirement referred to in subsection (b) is as follows:

3               “(A) After September 30, 1999, the  
4       individual—

5                       “(i) first enters on active duty;

6                       “(ii) reenlists or extends an enlistment on  
7       active duty as a member of the Armed Forces;  
8       or

9                       “(iii) in the case of an officer, continues to  
10      serve on active duty after that date.

11               “(B) From the date of such entry, reenlistment,  
12      extension, or continuation, as the case may be, the  
13      individual—

14                       “(i) serves a continuous period of active  
15      duty of at least four years in the Armed Forces;  
16      or

17                       “(ii) serves on active duty in the Armed  
18      Forces and is discharged or released from ac-  
19      tive duty—

20                       “(I) as provided in subclause (I) of  
21      section 3011(a)(1)(A)(ii) of this title;

22                       “(II) for the convenience of the Gov-  
23      ernment, after having completed not less  
24      than 42 months of continuous active duty;  
25      or

1 “(III) as provided in subclause (III)  
2 of section 3011(a)(1)(A)(ii) of this title.

3 “(2) In determining service under paragraph (1), the  
4 following rules apply:

5 “(A) Any period of service described in para-  
6 graph (2) or (3) of section 3011(d) of this title that  
7 applies to an eligible individual under this section  
8 shall not be considered a part of the individual’s pe-  
9 riod of active duty.

10 “(B) A member described in paragraph (2) of  
11 section 3011(f) of this title who serves the periods  
12 of active duty referred to in such paragraph shall be  
13 deemed to have served a continuous period of active  
14 duty the length of which is the aggregate length of  
15 the periods of active duty referred to in such para-  
16 graph.

17 “(C) Subsections (g) and (h) of section 3011 of  
18 this title apply with respect to an eligible individual  
19 under this section in the same manner as they apply  
20 to an individual under section 3011 of this title.

21 “(d) ELECTION OF BASIC EDUCATIONAL ASSIST-  
22 ANCE.—(1) An eligible individual entitled to enhanced  
23 educational assistance under this subchapter may elect (in  
24 a form and manner prescribed by the Secretary) to receive  
25 basic educational assistance under subchapter II in lieu

1 of such enhanced educational assistance for an enrollment  
 2 period. Such an election shall be made by not later than  
 3 30 days before the beginning of the enrollment period.

4 “(2) An eligible individual may revoke an election  
 5 made pursuant to paragraph (1), but in no case may such  
 6 revocation be made later than 30 days before the begin-  
 7 ning of the enrollment period.

8 **“§ 3042. Duration of enhanced educational assistance**

9 “(a) IN GENERAL.—Subject to section 3695 of this  
 10 title and except as provided in subsection (b), each individ-  
 11 ual entitled to enhanced educational assistance under sec-  
 12 tion 3041 of this title is entitled to a monthly enhanced  
 13 educational assistance allowance under this subchapter for  
 14 a period or periods not to exceed a total of 36 months  
 15 (or the equivalent thereof in part-time enhanced edu-  
 16 cational assistance).

17 “(b) SPECIAL RULE FOR CERTAIN EARLY SEPARA-  
 18 TIONS.—Subject to section 3695 of this title, in the case  
 19 of an individual described in subclause (I) or (III) of sec-  
 20 tion 3041(c)(1)(B)(ii) who does not serve a continuous pe-  
 21 riod of active duty of at least four years in the Armed  
 22 Forces (as described in section 3041(c)(1)(B)(i) of this  
 23 title), the individual is entitled to one month of enhanced  
 24 educational assistance benefits under this subchapter (not  
 25 to exceed a total of 36 months (or the equivalent thereof

1 in part-time enhanced educational assistance)) for each  
 2 month of continuous active duty served by the individual  
 3 beginning with the date on which the entry on active duty,  
 4 reenlistment, enlistment extension, or continuation appli-  
 5 cable to that individual under section 3041(c)(1)(A) of  
 6 this title begins.

7 **“§ 3043. Payment of educational expenses**

8       “(a) IN GENERAL.—(1) Subject to paragraph (2), the  
 9 Secretary shall pay to the educational institution providing  
 10 a course under an approved program of education to an  
 11 eligible individual under this subchapter who is enrolled  
 12 in the course the actual cost of tuition and fees otherwise  
 13 payable by the individual.

14       “(2) Such cost may not exceed the amount charged  
 15 to similarly circumstanced nonveterans.

16       “(b) STIPEND; COSTS OF BOOKS AND SUPPLIES.—  
 17 The Secretary shall pay to each eligible individual under  
 18 this subchapter who is pursuing an approved program of  
 19 education—

20               “(1) a stipend as provided in section 3044 of  
 21 this title; and

22               “(2) in accordance with regulations prescribed  
 23 by the Secretary, an amount equal to the average  
 24 cost of books and supplies payable by individuals

1       pursuing courses of education at educational institu-  
2       tions.

3       “(c) EXCLUSION FROM INCOME FOR ELIGIBILITY  
4 DETERMINATIONS FOR FEDERAL EDUCATIONAL  
5 LOANS.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law,  
6 amounts payable by the Secretary under this subchapter  
7 with respect to an eligible individual shall not be consid-  
8 ered as income for purposes of determining eligibility of  
9 such individual for education grants or loans under any  
10 other provision of Federal law.

11   **“§ 3044. Amount of stipend**

12       “(a) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in section  
13 3042 of this title, the stipend under this subchapter shall  
14 be paid at a monthly rate (as that rate may be increased  
15 pursuant to subsection (b)) as follows:

16           “(1) At the monthly rate of \$800 for an ap-  
17 proved program of education pursued on a full-time  
18 basis.

19           “(2) At the monthly rate of \$600 for an ap-  
20 proved program of education pursued on a three-  
21 quarter-time basis.

22           “(3) At the monthly rate of \$400 for an ap-  
23 proved program of education pursued on a half-time  
24 basis.

1           “(4) At the monthly rate of \$200 for an ap-  
 2           proved program of education pursued on less than a  
 3           half-time basis.

4           “(b) ADJUSTMENT FOR INFLATION.—With respect to  
 5           any fiscal year beginning after fiscal year 2000, the Sec-  
 6           retary shall increase the rate paid under subsection (a)  
 7           for the previous fiscal year by the percentage applicable  
 8           under section 3015(g) of this title.

9           **“§ 3045. Tutorial assistance**

10          “An individual entitled to an enhanced educational  
 11          assistance allowance under this subchapter shall be enti-  
 12          tled to benefits provided an individual under section 3019  
 13          of this title, subject to the conditions provided in such sec-  
 14          tion.”.

15          (b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—(1) Section 3002  
 16          of such title is amended by inserting at the end the follow-  
 17          ing new paragraph:

18          “(9) The term ‘enhanced educational assistance’  
 19          means educational assistance provided under subchapter  
 20          V.”.

21          (2) Section 3011 of such title is amended in sub-  
 22          section (f)(1) and (g) by striking “chapter” each place it  
 23          appears and inserting “subchapter”.

24          (3) Section 3018 of such title is amended by striking  
 25          “educational assistance under this chapter” each place it



1 appears and inserting “educational assistance under this  
2 subchapter”.

3 (4) Section 3018A(a) of such title is amended by  
4 striking “education assistance under this chapter” and in-  
5 serting “educational assistance under this subchapter”.

6 (5) Section 3018B of such title is amended by strik-  
7 ing “education assistance under this chapter” each place  
8 it appears and inserting “educational assistance under  
9 this subchapter”.

10 (6) Section 3018C of such title is amended—

11 (A) in subsection (a), by striking “educational  
12 assistance under this chapter” and inserting “edu-  
13 cational assistance under this subchapter”; and

14 (B) in subsection (b), by striking “education as-  
15 sistance under this chapter” and inserting “edu-  
16 cational assistance under this subchapter”.

17 (7) Section 3019 of such title is amended by striking  
18 “chapter” each place it appears and inserting “sub-  
19 chapter”.

20 (8) Section 3031 of such title is amended—

21 (A) in subsection (f), by inserting “or 3042 of  
22 this title” after “section 3013” each place it ap-  
23 pears; and

1 (B) in subsection (g), by inserting “or  
 2 3031(c)(1)(B)(ii)(III)” after “section  
 3 3011(a)(1)(A)(ii)(III)”.

4 (9) Section 3032(e)(3) of such title is amended by  
 5 inserting “, or section 3044(a)(1)” after “section 3015”.

6 (c) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections  
 7 at the beginning of chapter 30 of title 38, United States  
 8 Code, is amended by adding at the end the following new  
 9 items:

“SUBCHAPTER V—ENHANCED EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE

“3041. Enhanced educational assistance entitlement.

“3042. Duration of enhanced educational assistance.

“3043. Payment of educational expenses.

“3044. Amount of stipend.

“3045. Tutorial assistance.”.

10 **SEC. 3. INCREASE IN RATES OF BASIC EDUCATIONAL AS-**  
 11 **SISTANCE UNDER MONTGOMERY GI BILL.**

12 (a) ACTIVE DUTY EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE.—Sec-  
 13 tion 3015 of title 38, United States Code, is amended—

14 (1) in subsection (a)(1), by striking “\$528” and  
 15 inserting “\$900”; and

16 (2) in subsection (b)(1), by striking “\$429”  
 17 and inserting “\$730”.

18 (b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by  
 19 subsection (a) shall take effect on October 1, 1999, and  
 20 shall apply with respect to educational assistance allow-  
 21 ances paid for months after September 1999.

1 **SEC. 4. REPEAL OF PAY REDUCTION, ELECTION OF BENE-**  
2 **FITS, AND HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION RE-**  
3 **QUIREMENT FOR PARTICIPATION IN BASIC**  
4 **EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE UNDER MONT-**  
5 **GOMERY GI BILL.**

6 (a) REPEAL OF PAY REDUCTION AND ELECTION OF  
7 BENEFITS.—

8 (1) ACTIVE DUTY PROGRAM.—(A) Section 3011  
9 of title 38, United States Code, is amended—

10 (i) by striking subsection (b); and

11 (ii) in subsection (c), by striking paragraph  
12 (1) and redesignating paragraphs (2) and (3)  
13 as paragraphs (1) and (2), respectively.

14 (B) Section 3012 of such title is amended—

15 (i) by striking subsection (c); and

16 (ii) in subsection (d), by striking para-  
17 graph (1) and redesignating paragraphs (2) and  
18 (3) as paragraphs (1) and (2), respectively.

19 (2) OPPORTUNITIES TO WITHDRAW ELECTION  
20 NOT TO ENROLL.—(A) Section 3016(a)(1) of such  
21 title is amended by striking “, and does not make  
22 an election under section 3011(c)(1) or section  
23 3012(d)(1)”.

24 (B) Sections 3018A and 3018B of such title  
25 are each amended by adding at the end the following  
26 new subsection:

1       “(e) Notwithstanding subsection (b), no reduction in  
2 the pay of an individual under this section shall be made  
3 for months beginning after September 30, 1999. Any obli-  
4 gation of such individual under subsection (b), as of Sep-  
5 tember 30, 1999, shall be deemed to be fully satisfied as  
6 of such date.”.

7           (3) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made  
8 by this subsection shall take effect on October 1,  
9 1999, and apply to individuals whose initial obli-  
10 gated period of active duty under section 3011 or  
11 3012 of title 38, United States Code, as the case  
12 may be, begins on or after such date.

13           (4) TERMINATION OF PAY REDUCTIONS IN  
14 PROGRESS.—Any reduction in the basic pay of an  
15 individual referred to in subsection (b) of section  
16 3011 of title 38, United States Code, by reason of  
17 such subsection, or of any individual referred to in  
18 subsection (c) of section 3012 of such title by reason  
19 of such subsection, shall cease commencing with  
20 months beginning after September 30, 1999, and  
21 any obligation of such individual under such sub-  
22 sections, as the case may be, as of September 30,  
23 1999, shall be deemed to be fully satisfied as of such  
24 date.

1 (b) REPEAL OF HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION RE-  
2 QUIREMENT.—

3 (1) ACTIVE DUTY.—(A) Section 3011(a) of title  
4 38, United States Code, is amended—

5 (i) by striking paragraph (2); and

6 (ii) by redesignating paragraph (3) as  
7 paragraph (2).

8 (B) Section 3011 of such title is amended—

9 (i) by striking subsection (e); and

10 (ii) by redesignating subsections (f), (g),  
11 and (h) as subsections (e), (f), and (g), respec-  
12 tively.

13 (C) Section 3012(a) of such title is amended—

14 (i) by striking paragraph (2); and

15 (ii) by redesignating paragraph (3) as  
16 paragraph (2).

17 (D) Section 3012 of such title is amended—

18 (i) by striking subsection (f); and

19 (ii) by redesignating subsection (g) as sub-  
20 section (f).

21 (2) OPPORTUNITIES TO WITHDRAW ELECTION  
22 NOT TO ENROLL.—(A) Section 3018 of such title is  
23 amended—

24 (i) by striking paragraph (4) of subsection

25 (b);

1 (ii) by inserting “and” at the end of para-  
2 graph (3)(C); and

3 (iii) by redesignating paragraph (5) as  
4 paragraph (4).

5 (B)(i) Section 3018A(a) of such title is  
6 amended—

7 (I) by striking paragraph (2);

8 (II) by redesignating paragraphs (3), (4),  
9 and (5) as paragraphs (2), (3), and (4), respec-  
10 tively; and

11 (III) by striking “paragraph (3)” in para-  
12 graphs (3) and (4), as so redesignated, and in-  
13 serting “paragraph (2)”.

14 (ii) Section 3018A(c) of such title is amended  
15 by striking “subsection (a)(3) of this section” and  
16 inserting “subsection (a)(2)”.

17 (iii) Section 3018A(d)(1) of such title is amend-  
18 ed by striking “subsection (a)(4) of this subsection”  
19 and inserting “subsection (a)(3)”.

20 (C)(i) Section 3018B(a)(1) of such title is  
21 amended—

22 (I) by striking subparagraph (B);

23 (II) by redesignating subparagraphs (C),  
24 (D), and (E) as subparagraphs (B), (C), and  
25 (D), respectively; and

1 (III) by striking “subparagraph (C)” in  
2 subparagraphs (C) and (D), as so redesignated,  
3 and inserting “subparagraph (B)”.

4 (D)(i) Section 3018B(a)(2) of such title is  
5 amended—

6 (I) by striking subparagraph (B);

7 (II) by redesignating subparagraphs (C),  
8 (D), and (E) as subparagraphs (B), (C), and  
9 (D), respectively;

10 (III) by striking “paragraph (1)(C) of this  
11 subsection” in subparagraph (B), as so redesign-  
12 ated, and inserting “paragraph (1)(B)”;

13 (IV) by striking “subparagraph (C)” in  
14 subparagraphs (C) and (D), as so redesignated,  
15 and inserting “subparagraph (B)”.

16 (ii) Section 3018B(c) of such title is amended  
17 by striking “subsection (a)(1)(C) or (a)(2)(C) of this  
18 section” and inserting “subsection (a)(1)(B) or  
19 (a)(2)(B)”.

20 (iii) Section 3018B(d)(1) of such title is amend-  
21 ed by striking “subsection (a)(1)(D) or (a)(2)(D) of  
22 this section” and inserting “subsection (a)(1)(C) or  
23 (a)(2)(C)”.

24 (E)(i) Section 3018C(a) of such title is  
25 amended—

1 (I) by striking paragraph (3);  
2 (II) by redesignating paragraphs (4) and  
3 (5) as paragraphs (3) and (4), respectively; and  
4 (III) by striking “paragraph (5)” in para-  
5 graph (3), as so redesignated, and inserting  
6 “paragraph (4)”.

7 (ii) Section 3018C(b) of such title is amended  
8 by striking “as specified in subsection (a)(4)” and  
9 inserting “as specified in subsection (a)(3)”.

10 (iii) Section 3018C(c)(1) of such title is amend-  
11 ed by striking “election described in subsection  
12 (a)(5)” and inserting “election described in sub-  
13 section (a)(4)”.

14 (3) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made  
15 by this subsection shall take effect on the date of the  
16 enactment of this Act and apply with respect to indi-  
17 viduals applying for basic educational assistance  
18 under chapter 30 of title 38, United States Code, on  
19 or after such date.

20 (c) EDUCATION OUTREACH SERVICES TO MEMBERS  
21 OF THE ARMED FORCES.—

22 (1) IN GENERAL.—Section 3034(e)(1) of title  
23 38, United States Code, is amended to read as fol-  
24 lows:



1 “(e)(1) Not later than one year after an individual  
 2 initially enters on active duty as a member of the Armed  
 3 Forces, and at such additional times as the Secretary de-  
 4 termines appropriate, the Secretary shall furnish the indi-  
 5 vidual the information described in paragraph (2).”.

6 (2) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made  
 7 by paragraph (1) shall take effect on October 1,  
 8 1999, and apply to individuals whose initial obli-  
 9 gated period of active duty under section 3011 or  
 10 3012 of title 38, United States Code, as the case  
 11 may be, begins on or after such date.

12 **SEC. 5. AUTHORITY OF SECRETARY TO MAKE ACCELER-**  
 13 **ATED PAYMENTS OF BASIC EDUCATIONAL AS-**  
 14 **SISTANCE UNDER MONTGOMERY GI BILL.**

15 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 3014 of title 38 is  
 16 amended—

17 (1) by inserting “(a) IN GENERAL.—” before  
 18 “The Secretary”; and

19 (2) by adding at the end the following new sub-  
 20 section:

21 “(b) ACCELERATED PAYMENT.—(1)(A) Notwith-  
 22 standing any other provision of this chapter and subject  
 23 to subparagraph (B), an individual entitled to basic edu-  
 24 cational assistance under this subchapter may elect to re-

1 receive an accelerated payment of the basic educational as-  
2 sistance allowance.

3 “(B) The Secretary may not make an accelerated  
4 payment for a course to an individual who has received  
5 an advance payment under section 3680(d) of this title  
6 for the same enrollment period.

7 “(2)(A) Pursuant to an election under paragraph (1),  
8 the Secretary shall make an accelerated payment to an  
9 individual for a course in a lump-sum amount equal to  
10 the lesser of—

11 “(i) the amount of the educational assistance  
12 allowance for the month, or fraction thereof, in  
13 which the course begins plus the educational assist-  
14 ance allowance for each of the succeeding four  
15 months; or

16 “(ii)(I) in the case of a course offered on a  
17 quarter, semester, or term basis, the amount of ag-  
18 gregate monthly educational assistance allowance  
19 otherwise payable under this subchapter for the  
20 course for the entire quarter, semester, or term; or

21 “(II) in the case of a course that is not offered  
22 on a quarter, semester, or term basis, the amount of  
23 aggregate monthly educational assistance allowance  
24 otherwise payable under this subchapter for the en-  
25 tire course.

1       “(B) In the case of an adjustment under section  
2 3015(g) of this title in the monthly rate of basic edu-  
3 cational assistance that occurs during a period for which  
4 an accelerated payment is made under this subsection, the  
5 Secretary shall pay—

6               “(i) on an accelerated basis the amount of the  
7 allowance otherwise payable under this subchapter  
8 for the period without regard to the adjustment  
9 under that section; and

10              “(ii) on the date of the adjustment any addi-  
11 tional amount of the allowance that is payable for  
12 the period as a result of the adjustment.

13       “(3) Pursuant to an election under paragraph (1),  
14 the Secretary shall pay the accelerated payment to the in-  
15 dividual for a course by not later than the date on which  
16 the course begins.

17       “(4) For each accelerated payment made to an indi-  
18 vidual, the individual’s entitlement under this subchapter  
19 shall be charged at the same rate at which the entitlement  
20 would be charged if the individual had received a monthly  
21 educational assistance allowance for the period of edu-  
22 cational pursuit covered by the accelerated payment.

23       “(5) The Secretary shall prescribe regulations to  
24 carry out this subsection, and include in such regulations  
25 the requirements, conditions, and methods for the request,

1 issuance, delivery, certification of receipt and use, and re-  
 2 covery of overpayment of an accelerated payment.”.

3 (b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by  
 4 subsection (a) shall take effect on March 1, 2000, and  
 5 apply with respect to courses of education beginning on  
 6 or after such date.

7 **SEC. 6. AVAILABILITY OF MONTGOMERY GI BILL BENEFITS**  
 8 **FOR PAYMENT FOR LICENSING OR CERTIFI-**  
 9 **CATION TESTS.**

10 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 3452(b) of title 38,  
 11 United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the  
 12 following new sentence: “Such term also includes licensing  
 13 or certification tests required under Federal, State, or  
 14 local law, or regulation, for vocations or professions.”.

15 (b) AMOUNT OF PAYMENT.—Section 3032 of such  
 16 title is amended by adding at the end the following new  
 17 subsection:

18 “(g) The amount of educational assistance payable  
 19 under this chapter for a licensing or certification test de-  
 20 scribed in section 3452(b) of this title is the fee charged  
 21 for the test.”.

22 (c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by  
 23 this section shall take effect on October 1, 1999, and apply  
 24 with respect to licensing and certification tests approved  
 25 by the Secretary offered on or after such date.

1 **SEC. 7. AVAILABILITY OF MONTGOMERY GI BILL BENEFITS**  
 2 **FOR PREPARATORY COURSES FOR COLLEGE**  
 3 **AND GRADUATE SCHOOL ENTRANCE EXAMS.**

4 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 3452(b) of title 38,  
 5 United States Code, as amended by section 6, is further  
 6 amended by adding at the end the following new sentence:  
 7 “Such term also includes a preparatory course for a test  
 8 that is required or utilized for admission to an institution  
 9 of higher education or to a graduate school.”.

10 (b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by  
 11 subsection (a) shall take effect on October 1, 1999, and  
 12 applies with respect to preparatory courses approved by  
 13 the Secretary beginning on or after such date.

14 **SEC. 8. AVAILABILITY OF MONTGOMERY GI BILL BENEFITS**  
 15 **FOR TRAINING FOR TECHNOLOGICAL OCCU-**  
 16 **PATIONS OFFERED BY ENTITIES OTHER**  
 17 **THAN EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS.**

18 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 3452(c) of title 38,  
 19 United States Code, is amended to read as follows:

20 “(c) The term ‘educational institution’ means—

21 “(1) any public or private elementary school,  
 22 secondary school, vocational school, correspondence  
 23 school, business school, junior college, teachers’ col-  
 24 lege, college, normal school, professional school, uni-  
 25 versity, or scientific or technical institution, or other  
 26 institution furnishing education for adults;

1           “(2) any entity that provides training required  
 2           for completion of any State-approved alternative  
 3           teacher certification program (as determined by the  
 4           Secretary); or

5           “(3) any entity that provides, either directly or  
 6           under an agreement with another entity, training re-  
 7           quired for certification in a vocation or profession in  
 8           a technological occupation (as defined by the Sec-  
 9           retary).”.

10          (b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by  
 11          subsection (a) shall take effect on October 1, 1999, and  
 12          applies with respect to training courses, approved by the  
 13          Secretary, for certification for technological occupations  
 14          beginning on or after such date.

15      **SEC. 9. ENROLLMENT OF CERTAIN VEAP PARTICIPANTS IN**  
 16                              **BASIC EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE UNDER**  
 17                              **MONTGOMERY GI BILL.**

18          (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 3018C(a) of title 38 is  
 19          amended—

20               (1) in subsection (a), by striking “an individual  
 21               who—” and inserting “an individual who is de-  
 22               scribed in subsection (e) or who—”; and

23               (2) by adding at the end the following new sub-  
 24               section:

1       “(e) An individual referred to in the matter preceding  
2 paragraph 1 of subsection (a) is an individual who meets  
3 the following requirements:

4           “(1) Before October 10, 1996, the individual  
5 was enrolled in the educational benefits program  
6 provided in chapter 32 of this title.

7           “(2) The individual has continuously served on  
8 active duty since October 9, 1996.

9           “(3) The individual, if discharged or released  
10 from active duty after the date on which the individ-  
11 ual makes the election described in paragraph (4), is  
12 discharged or released therefrom with an honorable  
13 discharge.

14           “(4) During the 18-month period beginning on  
15 the date of the enactment of the Montgomery GI  
16 Bill Improvements Act of 1999, the individual makes  
17 an election pursuant to procedures established under  
18 subsection (a)(4).”.

19       (b) ELIMINATION OF PAY REDUCTION.—(1) Section  
20 3018C(b) of such title is amended by striking “With re-  
21 spect” and inserting “Except as provided in subsection (f),  
22 with respect”.

23       (2) Section 3018C of such title, as amended by sub-  
24 section (a), is further amended, by adding at the end the  
25 following new subsection:

1       “(f) No reduction in the pay of an individual under  
2 this section shall be made for months beginning after the  
3 date of the enactment of the Montgomery GI Bill Improve-  
4 ments Act of 1999. Any obligation of such individual  
5 under subsection (b), as of such date, shall be deemed to  
6 be fully satisfied as of such date.”.

○