

Union Calendar No. 343

106TH CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

H. R. 4268

[Report No. 106-628]

To amend title 38, United States Code, to increase amounts of educational assistance for veterans under the Montgomery GI Bill and to enhance programs providing educational benefits under that title, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 13, 2000

Mr. STUMP (for himself, Mr. EVANS, Mr. QUINN, Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, Mr. BILIRAKIS, Ms. BROWN of Florida, Mr. SPENCE, Mr. DOYLE, Mr. EVERETT, Ms. CARSON, Mr. BUYER, Mr. REYES, Mr. STEARNS, Mr. SNYDER, Mr. MORAN of Kansas, Mr. RODRIGUEZ, Mr. HAYWORTH, Mrs. CHENOWETH-HAGE, Mr. LAHOOD, Mr. HANSEN, Mr. McKEON, Mr. GIBBONS, Mr. SIMPSON, and Mr. BAKER) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs

MAY 19, 2000

Additional sponsors: Mr. NEY, Mr. CAMP, Mr. PETERSON of Minnesota, Mr. THOMPSON of California, Mr. UDALL of New Mexico, Mr. HILL of Indiana, Mr. SHOWS, Ms. BERKLEY, Mr. COOKSEY, and Mr. ORTIZ

MAY 19, 2000

Reported with an amendment, committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union, and ordered to be printed

[Omit the part struck through and insert the part printed in *italic*]

A BILL

To amend title 38, United States Code, to increase amounts

of educational assistance for veterans under the Montgomery GI Bill and to enhance programs providing educational benefits under that title, 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; TABLE OF CONTENTS; REF-**
 4 **ERENCES TO TITLE 38, UNITED STATES CODE.**

5 (a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the
 6 “Veterans and Dependents Millennium Education Act”.

7 (b) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents of
 8 this Act is as follows:

- Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents; references to title 38, United States Code.
- Sec. 2. Increase in rates of basic educational assistance under Montgomery GI Bill.
- Sec. 3. Additional opportunity for certain VEAP participants to enroll in basic educational assistance under Montgomery GI Bill.
- Sec. 4. Increase in rates of survivors and dependents educational assistance.
- Sec. 5. Adjusted effective date for award of survivors’ and dependents’ educational assistance.
- Sec. 6. Revision of educational assistance interval payment requirements.
- Sec. 7. Availability of Montgomery GI Bill benefits for payment for licensing or certification tests.
- Sec. 8. Extension of certain temporary authorities.
- Sec. 9. Codification of recurring provisions in annual Department of Veterans Affairs appropriations Acts.
- Sec. 10. Termination of certain reporting requirements.

9 (c) REFERENCES TO TITLE 38, UNITED STATES
 10 CODE.—Except as otherwise expressly provided, whenever
 11 in this Act an amendment or repeal is expressed in terms
 12 of an amendment to, or repeal of, a section or other provi-
 13 sion, the reference shall be considered to be made to a
 14 section or other provision of title 38, United States Code.

1 **SEC. 2. INCREASE IN RATES OF BASIC EDUCATIONAL AS-**
2 **SISTANCE UNDER MONTGOMERY GI BILL.**

3 (a) ACTIVE DUTY EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE.—(1)

4 Section 3015 is amended—

5 (A) in subsection (a)(1), by striking “\$528”
6 and inserting “\$720”; and

7 (B) in subsection (b)(1), by striking “\$429”
8 and inserting “\$585”.

9 (2) The amendments made by paragraph (1) shall
10 take effect on October 1, 2002, and shall apply with re-
11 spect to educational assistance allowances paid for months
12 after September 2002.

13 (3) In the case of an educational assistance allowance
14 paid for a month after September 2000, and before Octo-
15 ber 2002 under section 3015 of such title—

16 (A) subsection (a)(1) of such section shall be
17 applied by substituting “\$600” for “\$528”; and

18 (B) subsection (b)(1) of such section shall be
19 applied by substituting “\$487” for “\$429”.

20 (b) CPI ADJUSTMENT.—No adjustment in rates of
21 educational assistance shall be made under section
22 3015(g) of title 38, United States Code, for fiscal years
23 2001 and 2003.

1 **SEC. 3. ADDITIONAL OPPORTUNITY FOR CERTAIN VEAP**
2 **PARTICIPANTS TO ENROLL IN BASIC EDU-**
3 **CATIONAL ASSISTANCE UNDER MONT-**
4 **GOMERY GI BILL.**

5 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 3018C(a)(2) is amended
6 to read as follows:

7 “(2) has continuously served on active duty
8 since October 9, 1996 (excluding the periods re-
9 ferred to in section 3202(1)(C) of this title);”.

10 (b) ENROLLMENT PERIOD.—Section 3018C(a)(5) is
11 amended by striking “during the one-year period begin-
12 ning on October 9, 1996,” and inserting “during the one-
13 year period beginning on the date of the enactment of the
14 Veterans and Dependents Millennium Education Act,”.

15 (c) PAYMENT AMOUNT AND PERIOD.—Section
16 3018C(b) is amended to read as follows:

17 “(b)(1) Subject to paragraph (2), with respect to an
18 individual who makes an election under subsection (a) to
19 become entitled to basic education assistance under this
20 chapter—

21 “(A) the basic pay of the individual shall be re-
22 duced (in a manner determined by the Secretary
23 concerned) until the total amount by which such
24 basic pay is reduced is \$2,700; or

25 “(B) to the extent that basic pay is not so re-
26 duced before the individual’s discharge or release

1 from active duty as specified in subsection (a)(4),
2 the Secretary concerned shall collect from the indi-
3 vidual, or reduce the retired or retainer pay of the
4 individual by, an amount equal to the difference be-
5 tween \$2,700 and the total amount of reductions
6 under subparagraph (A), which shall be paid into
7 the Treasury of the United States as miscellaneous
8 receipts.

9 “(2)(A) The Secretary concerned shall provide for an
10 18-month period, beginning on the date the individual
11 makes an election under subsection (a), for the individual
12 to pay that Secretary the amount due under paragraph
13 (1).

14 “(B) Nothing in subparagraph (A) shall be construed
15 as modifying the period of eligibility for and entitlement
16 to basic education assistance under this chapter applicable
17 under section 3031 of this title.”.

18 (d) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by
19 this section shall apply with respect to elections made
20 under section 3018C of title 38, United States Code, dur-
21 ing the one-year period beginning on the date of the enact-
22 ment of this Act.

1 **SEC. 4. INCREASE IN RATES OF SURVIVORS AND DEPEND-**
2 **ENTS EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE.**

3 (a) SURVIVORS AND DEPENDENTS EDUCATIONAL
4 ASSISTANCE.—(1) Section 3532 is amended—

5 (A) in subsection (a)(1)—

6 (i) by striking “\$485” and inserting
7 “\$720”;

8 (ii) by striking “\$365” and inserting
9 “\$540”; and

10 (iii) by striking “\$242” and inserting
11 “\$360”;

12 (B) in subsection (a)(2), by striking “\$485”
13 and inserting “\$720”;

14 (C) in subsection (b), by striking “\$485” and
15 inserting “\$720”; and

16 (D) in subsection (c)(2)—

17 (i) by striking “\$392” and inserting
18 “\$582”;

19 (ii) by striking “\$294” and inserting
20 “\$436”; and

21 (iii) by striking “\$196” and inserting
22 “\$291”.

23 (2) The amendments made by paragraph (1) shall
24 take effect on October 1, 2002, and shall apply with re-
25 spect to educational assistance allowances paid for months
26 after September 2002.

1 (3) In the case of an educational assistance allowance
2 paid for a month after September 2000 and before Octo-
3 ber 2002 under section 3532 of such title—

4 (A) subsection (a)(1) of such section shall be
5 applied by substituting—

6 (i) “\$600” for “\$485”;

7 (ii) “\$450” for “\$365”; and

8 (iii) “\$300” for “\$242”;

9 (B) subsection (a)(2) of such section shall be
10 applied by substituting “\$600” for “\$485”;

11 (C) subsection (b) of such section shall be ap-
12 plied by substituting “\$600” for “\$485”; and

13 (D) subsection (c)(2) of such section shall be
14 applied by substituting—

15 (i) “\$485” for “\$392”;

16 (ii) “\$364” for “\$294”; and

17 (iii) “\$242” for “\$196”.

18 (b) CORRESPONDENCE COURSE.—(1) Section
19 3534(b) is amended by striking “\$485” and inserting
20 “\$720”.

21 (2) The amendment made by paragraph (1) shall
22 take effect on October 1, 2002, and shall apply with re-
23 spect to educational assistance allowances paid under sec-
24 tion 3534(b) of title 38, United States Code, for months
25 after September 2002.

1 (3) In the case of an educational assistance allowance
2 paid for a month after September 2000 and before Octo-
3 ber 2002 under section 3534 of such title, subsection (b)
4 of such section shall be applied by substituting “\$600”
5 for “\$485”.

6 (c) SPECIAL RESTORATIVE TRAINING.—(1) Section
7 3542(a) is amended—

8 (A) by striking “\$485” and inserting “\$720”;

9 (B) by striking “\$152” each place it appears
10 and inserting “\$225”; and

11 (C) by striking “\$16.16” and inserting “\$24”.

12 (2) The amendments made by paragraph (1) shall
13 take effect on October 1, 2002, and shall apply with re-
14 spect to educational assistance allowances paid under sec-
15 tion 3542(a) of title 38, United States Code, for months
16 after September 2002.

17 (3) In the case of an educational assistance allowance
18 paid for a month after September 2000 and before Octo-
19 ber 2002 under section 3542 of such title, subsection (a)
20 of such section shall be applied by substituting—

21 (A) “\$600” for “\$485”;

22 (B) “\$188” for “\$152”; and

23 (C) “\$20” for “\$16.16”.

24 (d) APPRENTICESHIP TRAINING.—(1) Section
25 3687(b)(2) is amended—

1 (A) by striking “\$353” and inserting “\$524”;

2 (B) by striking “\$264” and inserting “\$392”;

3 (C) by striking “\$175” and inserting “\$260”;

4 and

5 (D) by striking “\$88” and inserting “\$131”.

6 (2) The amendments made by paragraph (1) shall
7 take effect on October 1, 2002, and shall apply with re-
8 spect to educational assistance allowances paid under sec-
9 tion 3687(b)(2) of title 38, United States Code, for
10 months after September 2002.

11 (3) In the case of an educational assistance allowance
12 paid for a month after September 2000 and before Octo-
13 ber 2002 under section 3687 of such title, subsection
14 (b)(2) of such section shall be applied by substituting—

15 (A) “\$437” for “\$353”;

16 (B) “\$327” for “\$264”;

17 (C) “\$216” for “\$175”; and

18 (D) “\$109” for “\$88”.

19 (e) PROVISION FOR ANNUAL ADJUSTMENTS TO
20 AMOUNTS OF ASSISTANCE.—

21 (1) CHAPTER 35.—(A) Subchapter VI of chap-
22 ter 35 is amended by adding at the end the following
23 new section:

1 **“§ 3564. Annual adjustment of amounts of educational**
2 **assistance**

3 “With respect to any fiscal year, the Secretary shall
4 provide a percentage increase (rounded to the nearest dol-
5 lar) in the rates payable under sections 3532, 3534(b),
6 and 3542(a) of this title equal to the percentage by
7 which—

8 “(1) the Consumer Price Index (all items,
9 United States city average) for the 12-month period
10 ending on the June 30 preceding the beginning of
11 the fiscal year for which the increase is made, ex-
12 ceeds

13 “(2) such Consumer Price Index for the 12-
14 month period preceding the 12-month period de-
15 scribed in paragraph (1).”.

16 (B) The table of sections at the beginning of
17 chapter 35 is amended by inserting after the item
18 relating to section 3563 the following new item:

“3564. Annual adjustment of amounts of educational assistance.”.

19 (2) CHAPTER 36.—(A) Section 3687 is amended
20 by adding at the end the following new subsection:

21 “(d) With respect to any fiscal year, the Secretary
22 shall provide a percentage increase (rounded to the near-
23 est dollar) in the rates payable under subsection (b)(2)
24 equal to the percentage by which—

1 “(1) the Consumer Price Index (all items,
2 United States city average) for the 12-month period
3 ending on the June 30 preceding the beginning of
4 the fiscal year for which the increase is made, ex-
5 ceeds

6 “(2) such Consumer Price Index for the 12-
7 month period preceding the 12-month period de-
8 scribed in paragraph (1).”.

9 **SEC. 5. ADJUSTED EFFECTIVE DATE FOR AWARD OF SUR-**
10 **VIVORS’ AND DEPENDENTS’ EDUCATIONAL**
11 **ASSISTANCE.**

12 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 5113 is amended—

13 (1) by redesignating subsection (b) as sub-
14 section (c);

15 (2) in subsection (a), by striking “subsection
16 (b) of this section” and inserting “subsections (b)
17 and (c)”; and

18 (3) by inserting after subsection (a) the fol-
19 lowing new subsection:

20 “(b)(1) When determining the effective date of an
21 award of survivors’ and dependents’ educational assistance
22 under chapter 35 of this title for an individual described
23 in paragraph (2) based on an original claim, the Secretary
24 shall consider the individual’s application (under section
25 3513 of this title) as having been filed on the effective

1 date from which the Secretary, by rating decision, deter-
2 mines that the individual is entitled to such educational
3 assistance (such entitlement being based on the total serv-
4 ice-connected disability evaluated as permanent in nature,
5 or the service-connected death, of the spouse or parent
6 from whom the individual's eligibility is derived) if that
7 date is more than one year before the date such rating
8 decision is made.

9 “(2) An individual referred to in paragraph (1) is a
10 person who is eligible for educational assistance under
11 chapter 35 of this title by reason of subparagraph (A)(i),
12 (A)(ii), (B), or (D) of section 3501(a)(1) of this title
13 who—

14 “(A) submits to the Secretary an original appli-
15 cation under such section 3513 for such educational
16 assistance within one year of the effective date of
17 the rating decision referred to in paragraph (1);

18 “(B) claims such educational assistance for an
19 approved program of education for months preceding
20 the one-year period ending on the date on which the
21 individual's application under such section was re-
22 ceived by the Secretary; and

23 “(C) would have been entitled to such edu-
24 cational assistance for such course pursuit for such
25 months, without regard to this subsection, if the in-

1 dividual had submitted such an application on the
2 effective date from which the Secretary determined
3 the individual was eligible for such educational as-
4 sistance.”.

5 (b) **EFFECTIVE DATE.**—The amendments made by
6 subsection (a) shall apply to applications first made under
7 section 3513 of title 38, United States Code, that—

8 (1) are received on or after the date of the en-
9 actment of this Act, or

10 (2) on the date of the enactment of this Act,
11 are pending (A) with the Secretary of Veterans Af-
12 fairs or (B) exhaustion of available administrative
13 and judicial remedies.

14 **SEC. 6. REVISION OF EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE INTERVAL**
15 **PAYMENT REQUIREMENTS.**

16 (a) **IN GENERAL.**—Subclause (C) of the third sen-
17 tence of section 3680(a) is amended to read as follows:

18 “(C) during periods between school terms where
19 the educational institution certifies the enrollment of
20 the eligible veteran or eligible person on an indi-
21 vidual term basis if (i) the period between such
22 terms does not exceed eight weeks, and (ii) both the
23 terms preceding and following the period are not
24 shorter in length than the period.”.

1 (b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by
2 subsection (a) shall apply with respect to payments of edu-
3 cational assistance under title 38, United States Code, for
4 months beginning on or after the date of the enactment
5 of this Act.

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

9 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 3452(b) is amended by
10 adding at the end the following new sentence: “Such term
11 also includes licensing or certification tests required for
12 vocations or professions, such tests offered by a licensing
13 and credentialing organization or entity approved by the
14 Secretary pursuant to procedures established by the Sec-
15 retary.”.

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

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

23 (c) REGULATIONS.—In promulgating regulations to
24 establish procedures to approve licensing and credentialing
25 organizations under section 3452(b) of title 38, United

1 States Code, as added by subsection (a), the Secretary
 2 shall consult with such organizations with demonstrated
 3 expertise in licensing and credentialing that the Secretary
 4 determines appropriate. The Secretary shall make a de-
 5 tailed summary of any consultation under the previous
 6 sentence part of the record of the regulation promulgated
 7 under this section.

8 (d) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by
 9 this section shall take effect on October 1, 2000, and apply
 10 with respect to licensing and certification tests approved
 11 by the Secretary offered on or after such date.

12 **SEC. 8. EXTENSION OF CERTAIN TEMPORARY AUTHORI-**
 13 **TIES.**

14 (a) ENHANCED LOAN ASSET SALE AUTHORITY.—
 15 Section 3720(h)(2) is amended by striking “December 31,
 16 2002” and inserting “December 31, 2008”.

17 (b) HOME LOAN FEES.—Section 3729(a) is
 18 amended—

19 ~~(1) in paragraph (4), by striking “October 1,~~
 20 ~~2002” and inserting “October 1, 2008”; and~~

21 *(1) in paragraph (4)(B)—*

22 *(A) by striking “2002” and inserting*
 23 *“2008”; and*

24 *(B) by striking “2003” and inserting*
 25 *“2009”; and*

1 (2) in paragraph (5)(C), by striking “October
2 1, 2002” and inserting “October 1, 2008”.

3 (c) PROCEDURES APPLICABLE TO LIQUIDATION
4 SALES ON DEFAULTED HOME LOANS GUARANTEED BY
5 THE DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS.—Section
6 3732(c)(11) is amended by striking “October 1, 2002”
7 and inserting “October 1, 2008”.

8 (d) INCOME VERIFICATION AUTHORITY.—Section
9 5317(g) is amended by striking “September 30, 2002”
10 and inserting “September 30, 2008”.

11 (e) LIMITATION ON PENSION FOR CERTAIN RECIPI-
12 ENTS OF MEDICAID-COVERED NURSING HOME CARE.—
13 Section 5503(f)(7) is amended by striking “September 30,
14 2002” and inserting “September 30, 2008”.

15 **SEC. 9. CODIFICATION OF RECURRING PROVISIONS IN AN-**
16 **NUAL DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS**
17 **APPROPRIATIONS ACTS.**

18 (a) CODIFICATION OF RECURRING PROVISIONS.—(1)
19 Section 313 is amended by adding at the end the following
20 new subsections:

21 “(c) COMPENSATION AND PENSION.—Funds appro-
22 priated for Compensation and Pensions are available for
23 the following purposes:

1 “(1) The payment of compensation benefits to
2 or on behalf of veterans as authorized by section 107
3 and chapters 11, 13, 51, 53, 55, and 61 of this title.

4 “(2) Pension benefits to or on behalf of vet-
5 erans as authorized by chapters 15, 51, 53, 55, and
6 61 of this title and section 306 of the Veterans’ and
7 Survivors’ Pension Improvement Act of 1978.

8 “(3) The payment of benefits as authorized
9 under chapter 18 of this title.

10 “(4) Burial benefits, emergency and other offi-
11 cers’ retirement pay, adjusted-service credits and
12 certificates, payments of premiums due on commer-
13 cial life insurance policies guaranteed under the pro-
14 visions of article IV of the Soldiers’ and Sailors’
15 Civil Relief Act of 1940 (50 U.S.C. App. 540 et
16 seq.), and other benefits as authorized by sections
17 107, 1312, 1977, and 2106 and chapters 23, 51, 53,
18 55, and 61 of this title and the World War Adjusted
19 Compensation Act (43 Stat. 122, 123), the Act of
20 May 24, 1928 (Public Law No. 506 of the 70th
21 Congress; 45 Stat. 735), and Public Law 87–875
22 (76 Stat. 1198).

23 “(d) MEDICAL CARE.—Funds appropriated for Med-
24 ical Care are available for the following purposes:

1 “(1) The maintenance and operation of hos-
2 pitals, nursing homes, and domiciliary facilities.

3 “(2) Furnishing, as authorized by law, inpatient
4 and outpatient care and treatment to beneficiaries of
5 the Department, including care and treatment in fa-
6 cilities not under the jurisdiction of the Department.

7 “(3) Furnishing recreational facilities, supplies,
8 and equipment.

9 “(4) Funeral and burial expenses and other ex-
10 penses incidental to funeral and burial expenses for
11 beneficiaries receiving care from the Department.

12 “(5) Administrative expenses in support of
13 planning, design, project management, real property
14 acquisition and disposition, construction, and ren-
15 ovation of any facility under the jurisdiction or for
16 the use of the Department.

17 “(6) Oversight, engineering, and architectural
18 activities not charged to project cost.

19 “(7) Repairing, altering, improving, or pro-
20 viding facilities in the medical facilities and homes
21 under the jurisdiction of the Department, not other-
22 wise provided for, either by contract or by the hire
23 of temporary employees and purchase of materials.

24 “(8) Uniforms or uniform allowances, as au-
25 thorized by sections 5901 and 5902 of title 5.

1 “(9) Aid to State homes, as authorized by sec-
2 tion 1741 of this title.

3 “(10) Administrative and legal expenses of the
4 Department for collecting and recovering amounts
5 owed the Department as authorized under chapter
6 17 of this title and Public Law 87–693, popularly
7 known as the Federal Medical Care Recovery Act
8 (42 U.S.C. 2651 et seq.).

9 “(e) MEDICAL ADMINISTRATION AND MISCELLA-
10 NEOUS OPERATING EXPENSES.—Funds appropriated for
11 Medical Administration and Miscellaneous Operating Ex-
12 penses are available for the following purposes:

13 “(1) The administration of medical, hospital,
14 nursing home, domiciliary, construction, supply, and
15 research activities authorized by law.

16 “(2) Administrative expenses in support of
17 planning, design, project management, architectural
18 work, engineering, real property acquisition and dis-
19 position, construction, and renovation of any facility
20 under the jurisdiction or for the use of the Depart-
21 ment, including site acquisition.

22 “(3) Engineering and architectural activities
23 not charged to project costs.

24 “(4) Research and development in building con-
25 struction technology.

1 “(f) GENERAL OPERATING EXPENSES.—Funds ap-
2 propriated for General Operating Expenses are available
3 for the following purposes:

4 “(1) Uniforms or allowances therefor.

5 “(2) Hire of passenger motor vehicles.

6 “(3) Reimbursement of the General Services
7 Administration for security guard services.

8 “(4) Reimbursement of the Department of De-
9 fense for the cost of overseas employee mail.

10 “(5) Administration of the Service Members
11 Occupational Conversion and Training Act of 1992
12 (10 U.S.C. 1143 note).

13 “(g) CONSTRUCTION.—Funds appropriated for Con-
14 struction, Major Projects, and for Construction, Minor
15 Projects, are available, with respect to a project, for the
16 following purposes:

17 “(1) Planning.

18 “(2) Architectural and engineering services.

19 “(3) Maintenance or guarantee period services
20 costs associated with equipment guarantees provided
21 under the project.

22 “(4) Services of claims analysts.

23 “(5) Offsite utility and storm drainage system
24 construction costs.

25 “(6) Site acquisition.

1 “(h) CONSTRUCTION, MINOR PROJECTS.—In addi-
 2 tion to the purposes specified in subsection (g), funds ap-
 3 propriated for Construction, Minor Projects, are available
 4 for—

5 “(1) repairs to any of the nonmedical facilities
 6 under the jurisdiction or for the use of the Depart-
 7 ment which are necessary because of loss or damage
 8 caused by a natural disaster or catastrophe; and

9 “(2) temporary measures necessary to prevent
 10 or to minimize further loss by such causes.”.

11 (2)(A) Chapter 1 is amended by adding at the end
 12 the following new section:

13 **“§ 116. Definition of cost of direct and guaranteed**
 14 **loans**

15 “For the purpose of any provision of law appro-
 16 priating funds to the Department for the cost of direct
 17 or guaranteed loans, the cost of any such loan, including
 18 the cost of modifying any such loan, shall be as defined
 19 in section 502 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974
 20 (2 U.S.C. 661a).”.

21 (B) The table of sections at the beginning of such
 22 chapter is amended by adding at the end the following
 23 new item:

“116. Definition of cost of direct and guaranteed loans.”.

24 (b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—Subsections (c) through (h)
 25 of section 313 of title 38, United States Code, as added

1 by subsection (a)(1), and section 116 of such title, as
2 added by subsection (a)(2), shall take effect with respect
3 to funds appropriated for fiscal year 2002.

4 **SEC. 10. TERMINATION OF CERTAIN REPORTING REQUIRE-**
5 **MENTS.**

6 (a) INAPPLICABILITY OF PRIOR REPORTS TERMI-
7 NATION PROVISION TO CERTAIN REPORTS OF THE DE-
8 PARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS.—Section 3003(a)(1)
9 of the Federal Reports Elimination and Sunset Act of
10 1995 (31 U.S.C. 1113 note) does not apply to any report
11 required to be submitted under any of the following sec-
12 tions of title 38, United States Code: sections 503(c), 529,
13 541(c), 542(c), 3036, and 7312(d).

14 (b) REPEAL OF REPORTING REQUIREMENTS TERMI-
15 NATED BY PRIOR LAW.—Sections 8111A(f) and 8201(h)
16 are repealed.

17 (c) SUNSET OF CERTAIN REPORTING REQUIRE-
18 MENTS.—

19 (1) ANNUAL REPORT ON EQUITABLE RELIEF
20 CASES.—Section 503(c) is amended by adding at the
21 end the following new sentence: “No report shall be
22 required under this subsection after December 31,
23 2004.”.

24 (2) BIENNIAL REPORT OF ADVISORY COM-
25 MITTEE ON FORMER PRISONERS OF WAR.—Section

1 541(c)(1) is amended by inserting “through 2003”
 2 after “each odd-numbered year”.

3 (3) BIENNIAL REPORT OF ADVISORY COM-
 4 MITTEE ON WOMEN VETERANS.—Section 542(c)(1)
 5 is amended by inserting “through 2003” after “each
 6 odd-numbered year”.

7 (4) BIENNIAL REPORTS ON MONTGOMERY GI
 8 BILL.—Subsection (d) of section 3036 is amended to
 9 read as follows:
 10 “(d) No report shall be required under this section
 11 after January 1, 2005.”.

12 (5) ANNUAL REPORT OF SPECIAL MEDICAL AD-
 13 VISORY GROUP.—Section 7312(d) is amended by
 14 adding at the end the following new sentence: “No
 15 report shall be required under this subsection after
 16 December 31, 2004.”.

17 (d) COST INFORMATION TO BE PROVIDED WITH
 18 EACH REPORT REQUIRED BY CONGRESS.—

19 (1) IN GENERAL.—(A) Chapter 1 is amended
 20 by adding at the end the following new section:

21 **“§ 117. Reports to Congress: cost information**

22 “Whenever the Secretary submits to Congress, or any
 23 committee of Congress, a report that is required by law
 24 or by a joint explanatory statement of a committee of con-

1 ference of the Congress, the Secretary shall include with
2 the report—

3 “(1) a statement of the cost of preparing the
4 report; and

5 “(2) a brief explanation of the methodology
6 used in preparing that cost statement.”.

7 (B) The table of sections at the beginning of
8 such chapter is amended by adding at the end the
9 following new item:

“117. Reports to Congress: cost information.”.

10 (2) EFFECTIVE DATE.—Section 117 of title 38,
11 United States Code, as added by paragraph (1) of
12 this subsection, shall apply with respect to any re-
13 port submitted by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs
14 after the end of the 90-day period beginning on the
15 date of the enactment of this Act.

Union Calendar No. 343

106TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 4268

[Report No. 106-628]

A BILL

To amend title 38, United States Code, to increase amounts of educational assistance for veterans under the Montgomery GI Bill and to enhance programs providing educational benefits under that title, and for other purposes.

MAY 19, 2000

Reported with an amendment, committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union, and ordered to be printed