

108TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 3779

To amend the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act to prevent the disruption of the education of children who change residence based on the military service of their parents.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 4, 2004

Ms. SLAUGHTER (for herself and Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs

A BILL

To amend the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act to prevent the disruption of the education of children who change residence based on the military service of their parents.

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 “Safeguarding School-
5 children of Deployed Soldiers Act of 2004”.

1 **SEC. 2. RELIEF FOR SCHOOLCHILDREN CHANGING RESI-**
2 **DENCE BASED ON MILITARY SERVICE OF**
3 **PARENT.**

4 (a) UNINTERRUPTED ATTENDANCE AT SCHOOL.—
5 Title VII of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act (50
6 U.S.C. App. 501 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end
7 the following new section:

8 **“SEC. 707. ATTENDANCE AT SCHOOL OF CHILDREN WITH**
9 **PARENTS IN MILITARY SERVICE.**

10 “(a) ATTENDANCE FOR SCHOOLCHILDREN.—For the
11 duration of the military service on which a child’s change
12 of residence is based and at the request of a child’s parent,
13 a State educational agency or local educational agency
14 shall, for purposes of enrollment (including tuition, fees,
15 and costs) in elementary or secondary school, treat a child
16 who changes residence based on the military service of one
17 or both of the child’s parents as if the child has the resi-
18 dence the child had before the change of residence, and
19 the child shall be deemed, for all other purposes relating
20 to enrollment, to have the residence the child had before
21 the change of residence.

22 “(b) NO PROVISION OF TRANSPORTATION.—No
23 State educational agency or local educational agency shall
24 be responsible for the transportation of a child described
25 in subsection (a) to or from school by reason of subsection
26 (a).

1 “(c) DEFINITIONS.—In this section, the terms ‘child’,
2 ‘elementary school’, ‘local educational agency’, ‘parent’,
3 ‘secondary school’, and ‘State educational agency’ have the
4 meanings given those terms in section 9101 of the Ele-
5 mentary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C.
6 7801).”.

7 (b) TRANSITIONAL PROVISION.—Not later than 30
8 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, a State
9 educational agency or local educational agency that serves
10 the area where a child is deemed to reside pursuant to
11 section 707(a) of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act, as
12 added by subsection (a), shall facilitate the re-enrollment
13 of the child if such re-enrollment is necessary to be in com-
14 pliance with such section.

15 (c) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of contents
16 in section 1(b) of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act is
17 amended by adding at the end the following new item:

“707. Attendance at school of children with parents in military service.”.

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