

112TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# H. R. 4052

To amend title 38, United States Code, to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to establish an honorary Excellence in Veterans Education Award.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 16, 2012

Mr. STUTZMAN introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs

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## A BILL

To amend title 38, United States Code, to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to establish an honorary Excellence in Veterans Education Award.

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 “Recognizing Excellence  
5       in Veterans Education Act of 2012”.

6       **SEC. 2. EXCELLENCE IN VETERANS EDUCATION AWARD.**

7       (a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 36 of title 38, United  
8       States Code, is amended by adding at the end the fol-  
9       lowing new section:

1 **“§ 3698. Excellence in Veterans Education Award**

2 “(a) EXCELLENCE IN VETERANS EDUCATION  
3 AWARD.—(1) The Secretary shall establish an honorary  
4 award, to be known as the ‘Excellence in Veterans Edu-  
5 cation Award’, to recognize institutions of higher learning  
6 (as defined in section 3452(f) of this title) that provide  
7 superior services to veterans.

8 “(2) An Excellence in Veterans Education Award  
9 awarded under paragraph (1) to an institution of higher  
10 learning shall be valid for a period of three years, except  
11 that the Secretary may withdraw such award at any time  
12 under criteria the Secretary considers appropriate.

13 “(b) DISPLAY OF HONORARY AWARD.—During each  
14 period in which an institution of higher learning is award-  
15 ed an Excellence in Veterans Education Award under sub-  
16 section (a)(1), the Secretary shall indicate that such insti-  
17 tution has received such award on the list of institutions  
18 approved for veteran education benefits that is maintained  
19 on the Internet website of the Department.

20 “(c) CRITERIA.—The Secretary may only award the  
21 Excellence in Veterans Education Award under subsection  
22 (a)(1) to an institution of higher learning that meets the  
23 following criteria:

24 “(1) The head of the institution—

25 “(A) has a student veteran advisory board  
26 or a student veteran advisor; and

1           “(B) seeks advice from such board or advi-  
2           sor.

3           “(2) The institution—

4           “(A) participates in the Yellow Ribbon G.I.  
5           Education Enhancement Program under section  
6           3317 of this title; and

7           “(B) while so participating—

8           “(i) contributes the maximum amount  
9           under section 3317(d)(1); and

10           “(ii) ensures that amounts contrib-  
11           uted under such section are made available  
12           to all veterans enrolled at the institution  
13           who qualify for the program.

14           “(3) The institution has a veterans support pro-  
15           gram that provides services that—

16           “(A) the Secretary considers appropriate;  
17           and

18           “(B) may be carried out through the insti-  
19           tution or an appropriate entity that enters into  
20           an agreement with the institution.

21           “(4) The institution is a member of the  
22           Servicemembers Opportunity College.

23           “(5) The average graduation rate for all of the  
24           enrolled students of the institution is equal to or  
25           greater than the average national graduation rate

1       for all students enrolled in the same type of institu-  
2       tion, as determined by the Secretary of Education.

3               “(6) Any other criteria that the Secretary con-  
4       siders appropriate.”.

5       (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections  
6       at the beginning of such chapter is amended by adding  
7       after the item relating to section 3697A the following new  
8       item:

      “3698. Excellence in Veterans Education Award.”.

