

113TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# H. R. 4818

To amend title 10, United States Code, to codify the Military Spouse Career Advancement Account program conducted by the Department of Defense to assist spouses of members of the Armed Forces serving on active duty to pursue educational opportunities and career training, to ensure that such educational opportunities and training are available to all military spouses, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 9, 2014

Mr. MURPHY of Florida (for himself and Mr. CRAMER) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Armed Services

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## A BILL

To amend title 10, United States Code, to codify the Military Spouse Career Advancement Account program conducted by the Department of Defense to assist spouses of members of the Armed Forces serving on active duty to pursue educational opportunities and career training, to ensure that such educational opportunities and training are available to all military spouses, 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,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “Military Spouse Career  
3 Advancement Act”.

4 **SEC. 2. MILITARY SPOUSE CAREER ADVANCEMENT AC-**  
5 **COUNT PROGRAM.**

6 (a) CODIFICATION OF MYCAA PROGRAM.—Sub-  
7 section (a) of section 1784a of title 10, United States  
8 Code, is amended by adding at the end the following new  
9 paragraph:

10 “(3)(A) As one of the programs established under  
11 this section to assist spouses of members of the armed  
12 forces, the Secretary shall continue to carry out the Mili-  
13 tary Spouse Career Advancement Account (MyCAA) pro-  
14 gram, under which an eligible spouse may receive up to  
15 the amount that the Secretary determines is equal to the  
16 average amount of in-state tuition at public four-year col-  
17 leges and universities located in the State in which the  
18 spouse resides in tuition assistance for education and  
19 training courses and licensing and credentialing fees.

20 “(B) Financial assistance provided under the MyCAA  
21 program shall be available to cover the costs of the fol-  
22 lowing:

23 “(i) State certifications for teachers, medical  
24 professionals, and other occupations requiring recog-  
25 nized certifications.

1           “(ii) Licensing exams and related preparation  
2       courses.

3           “(iii) Continuing education classes, including  
4       classes offered through professional associations.

5           “(iv) Degree programs, including programs at  
6       four-year colleges and universities, leading to em-  
7       ployment in portable careers.

8           “(v) Secondary education completion courses,  
9       GED tests, and English as a Second Language  
10      (ESL) classes.

11       “(C) Financial assistance provided under the MyCAA  
12   program may not be used to pay for computers, applica-  
13   tion, graduation or membership fees, student activity  
14   cards, child care, parking, transportation, or medical serv-  
15   ices.

16       “(D) An eligible spouse must obtain an approved  
17   MyCAA Financial Assistance document before incurring  
18   the tuition fees for which payment under the program is  
19   sought. The MyCAA program does not provide reimburse-  
20   ments of any kind to spouses for any reason. Once the  
21   eligible spouse obtains the MyCAA Financial Assistance  
22   document, the spouse must commence the education or  
23   training courses for which assistance is sought under the  
24   program while the member of the armed forces who is  
25   married to the spouse is serving on active duty.”.

1       (b) GUARANTEE OF EDUCATION AND TRAINING OP-  
2 PORTUNITIES FOR MILITARY SPOUSES.—Subsection  
3 (a)(1) of such section is amended by striking “may estab-  
4 lish” and inserting “shall establish”.

5       (c) ELIGIBLE MILITARY SPOUSES.—Subsection (b)  
6 of such section is amended—

7           (1) by inserting “(1)” before “Assistance”; and  
8           (2) by adding at the end the following new  
9 paragraph:

10       “(2) The Secretary of Defense may not restrict par-  
11 ticipation in the MyCAA program required by subsection  
12 (a)(3) to the spouses of members serving in particular  
13 grades. Instead, subject to the availability of funds for the  
14 MyCAA program, the Secretary shall make the MyCAA  
15 program available to all eligible spouses.”.

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