

113TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 257

To amend title 38, United States Code, to require courses of education provided by public institutions of higher education that are approved for purposes of the educational assistance programs administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to charge veterans tuition and fees at the in-State tuition rate, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

FEBRUARY 7, 2013

Mr. BOOZMAN (for himself, Mr. NELSON, and Mr. DURBIN) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs

A BILL

To amend title 38, United States Code, to require courses of education provided by public institutions of higher education that are approved for purposes of the educational assistance programs administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to charge veterans tuition and fees at the in-State tuition rate, 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 “GI Bill Tuition Fair-
3 ness Act of 2013”.

4 **SEC. 2. APPROVAL OF COURSES OF EDUCATION PROVIDED**
5 **BY PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDU-**
6 **CATION FOR PURPOSES OF EDUCATIONAL**
7 **ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS ADMINISTERED BY**
8 **SECRETARY OF VETERANS AFFAIRS CONDI-**
9 **TIONAL ON IN-STATE TUITION RATE FOR**
10 **VETERANS.**

11 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 3679 of title 38, United
12 States Code, is amended by adding at the end the fol-
13 lowing new subsection:

14 “(c)(1) Notwithstanding any other provision of this
15 subtitle, the Secretary or the Secretary’s designee shall
16 disapprove a course of education provided by a public in-
17 stitution of higher education unless the institution charges
18 tuition and fees for a veteran at the same rate as the insti-
19 tution charges for residents of the State in which the insti-
20 tution is located, regardless of the veteran’s State of resi-
21 dence.

22 “(2) The Secretary shall notify the State approving
23 agency of the Secretary’s disapproval of a course of edu-
24 cation under this subsection.”.

25 (b) TREATMENT OF ENROLLED BENEFITS RECIPI-
26 ENTS.—

1 (1) IN GENERAL.—In the case of a veteran or
2 eligible person who is enrolled before August 1,
3 2014, in a course of education provided by a public
4 institution of higher education that was approved
5 under chapter 36 of title 38, United States Code, at
6 the time of the initial enrollment of the veteran or
7 eligible person but that is disapproved by the Sec-
8 retary of Veterans Affairs or the Secretary’s des-
9 ignee by reason of subsection (c) of section 3679 of
10 such title, as added by subsection (a) of this section,
11 the Secretary shall treat such institution as an insti-
12 tution that is approved under such chapter for pur-
13 poses of the laws administered by the Secretary with
14 respect to the veteran or eligible person until the
15 veteran or eligible person completes the course of
16 education in which the veteran or eligible person is
17 enrolled.

18 (2) TERMINATION.—

19 (A) LIMITATION.—Except as provided in
20 subparagraph (B), the Secretary of Veterans
21 Affairs may not treat an institution of higher
22 education as an approved institution under
23 paragraph (1) after August 1, 2018.

24 (B) WAIVER.—The Secretary may waive
25 the limitation under subparagraph (A) if the

1 Secretary determines such a waiver is appro-
2 priate.

3 (c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—Subsection (c) of section
4 3679 of title 38, United States Code, as added by sub-
5 section (a) shall apply with respect to educational assist-
6 ance provided after August 1, 2014.

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