

117TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 4233

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

NOVEMBER 17, 2021

Received; read twice and referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs

AN ACT

To amend title 38, United States Code, to furnish Vet Center readjustment counseling and related mental health services to veterans and members of the Armed Forces using certain educational assistance benefits.

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 “Student Veterans
3 Counseling Centers Eligibility Act”.

4 **SEC. 2. EXPANSION OF VET CENTER SERVICES.**

5 (a) VETERANS AND MEMBERS USING EDUCATIONAL
6 ASSISTANCE BENEFITS.—Section 1712A of title 38,
7 United States Code, is amended—

8 (1) by striking “clauses (i) through (vi)” both
9 places it appears and inserting “clauses (i) through
10 (vii)”;

11 (2) by striking “in clause (vii)” both places it
12 appears and inserting “in clause (viii)”;

13 (3) in subsection (a)(1)(C)—

14 (A) by redesignating clause (vii) as clause
15 (viii); and

16 (B) by inserting after clause (vi) the fol-
17 lowing new clause:

18 “(vii) Any veteran or member of the Armed
19 Forces pursuing a course of education using covered
20 educational assistance benefits.”; and

21 (4) in subsection (h), by adding at the end the
22 following new paragraph:

23 “(6) The term ‘covered educational assistance
24 benefits’ means educational assistance benefits pro-
25 vided pursuant to—

1 “(A) chapters 30, 31, 32, or 33 of this
2 title;

3 “(B) chapters 1606 or 1607 of title 10;

4 “(C) section 116 of the Harry W. Colmery
5 Veterans Educational Assistance Act of 2017
6 (Public Law 115–48; 38 U.S.C. 3001 note); or

7 “(D) section 8006 of the American Rescue
8 Plan Act of 2021 (Public Law 117–2; 38
9 U.S.C. 3001 note prec.).”.

10 (b) GAO REPORT.—Not later than one year after the
11 date of the enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General
12 of the United States shall submit to the Committees on
13 Veterans’ Affairs of the House of Representatives and the
14 Senate a report assessing—

15 (1) the mental health needs of veterans pur-
16 suing a course of education using covered edu-
17 cational assistance benefits (as defined in section
18 1712A(h)(6) of title 38, United States Code, as
19 added by subsection (a)); and

1 (2) the efforts of the Department of Veterans
2 Affairs to address such mental health needs.

Passed the House of Representatives November 16,
2021.

Attest: **CHERYL L. JOHNSON,**
Clerk.