

Standards Act of 1938 relating to child labor.

S. 2222

At the request of Mr. SANDERS, the names of the Senator from Montana (Mr. TESTER), the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. CASEY), the Senator from Alaska (Mr. BEGICH) and the Senator from Michigan (Mr. LEVIN) were added as cosponsors of S. 2222, a bill to require the Commodity Futures Trading Commission to take certain actions to reduce excessive speculation in energy markets.

S. 2226

At the request of Mr. PAUL, the name of the Senator from Utah (Mr. LEE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2226, a bill to prohibit the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency from awarding any grant, contract, cooperative agreement, or other financial assistance under section 103 of the Clean Air Act for any program, project, or activity carried out outside the United States, including the territories and possessions of the United States.

S. 2232

At the request of Mr. BROWN of Massachusetts, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. PORTMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2232, a bill to decrease the deficit by realigning, consolidating, disposing, and improving the efficiency of Federal buildings and other civilian real property, and for other purposes.

S. 2233

At the request of Mr. SCHUMER, the names of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL) and the Senator from Wisconsin (Mr. KOHL) were added as cosponsors of S. 2233, a bill to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to stimulate international tourism to the United States.

S.J. RES. 38

At the request of Mr. GRAHAM, the name of the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. COBURN) was added as a cosponsor of S.J. Res. 38, a joint resolution disapproving a rule submitted by the Department of Labor relating to the certification of nonimmigrant workers in temporary or seasonal nonagricultural employment.

S. RES. 344

At the request of Mr. RUBIO, the name of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 344, a resolution supporting the democratic aspirations of the Nicaraguan people and calling attention to the deterioration of constitutional order in Nicaragua.

S. RES. 356

At the request of Mrs. FEINSTEIN, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 356, a resolution expressing support for the people of Tibet.

S. RES. 395

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from Indiana (Mr. LUGAR) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 395, a resolution expressing the

sense of the Senate in support of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization and the NATO summit to be held in Chicago, Illinois from May 20 through 21, 2012.

S. RES. 397

At the request of Mr. COONS, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 397, a resolution promoting peace and stability in Sudan, and for other purposes.

S. RES. 402

At the request of Mr. COONS, the names of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. JOHNSON), the Senator from Nevada (Mr. HELLER) and the Senator from New Hampshire (Ms. AYOTTE) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 402, a resolution condemning Joseph Kony and the Lord's Resistance Army for committing crimes against humanity and mass atrocities, and supporting ongoing efforts by the United States Government and governments in central Africa to remove Joseph Kony and Lord's Resistance Army commanders from the battlefield.

AMENDMENT NO. 1952

At the request of Mr. SANDERS, the names of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. CASEY) and the Senator from Alaska (Mr. BEGICH) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 1952 intended to be proposed to S. 2204, a bill to eliminate unnecessary tax subsidies and promote renewable energy and energy conservation.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mrs. MURRAY (for herself, Mr. AKAKA, Mr. BEGICH, Mr. BROWN of Ohio, Mr. ROCKEFELLER, Mr. COONS, Mr. HARKIN, Mr. INOUE, Mr. LEAHY, and Mr. WHITEHOUSE):

S. 2241. A bill to ensure that veterans have the information and protections they require to make informed decisions regarding use of Post-9/11 Educational Assistance, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

Mrs. MURRAY. Mr. President, today, as Chairman of the Senate Committee on Veterans' Affairs, I am proud to introduce the GI Bill Consumer Awareness Act of 2012.

My colleagues, including my fellow Veterans' Affairs Committee Members Senators AKAKA, BEGICH, BROWN of Ohio and ROCKEFELLER, and my Senate colleagues Senators COONS, HARKIN, INOUE, LEAHY, and WHITEHOUSE, join me in introducing this important legislation. I appreciate their continued support of our Nation's veterans.

With the end of the war in Iraq and the drawdown in Afghanistan, more servicemembers are separating from the military to start their civilian careers. When my father came home from war, the GI Bill helped him go to college. He used that education to get a job, one that gave him pride. That's

the opportunity we must provide those returning from today's wars.

America's investment in its newest generation of veterans is tremendous.

In 2012, over 590,000 servicemembers, veterans, and other beneficiaries are expected to enroll in educational institutions using the Post-9/11 GI Bill. VA is expected to spend over \$9 billion dollars in 2012 on Post-9/11 GI Bill payments and over \$2 billion for the nearly 400,000 beneficiaries of the VA's other education programs. Despite this level of support, those returning from today's wars are unable to use VA educational benefits to their full potential. Today, that ends.

At its heart, the GI Bill Consumer Awareness Act would take significant steps to make certain that GI Bill beneficiaries have access to information to help them make informed decisions about the educational institutions they attend, so they get the most out of this tremendous benefit. This bill would also require VA and DoD to develop a joint policy to curb aggressive recruiting and misleading marketing aimed at servicemembers and veterans so they can make a decision on a school without bad actors exerting unfair influence on them.

Many servicemembers and veterans attend educational institutions that do not suit their intended goals. This shouldn't be the case. Servicemembers and veterans should enroll in educational institutions which put them on the path to a successful career, or allow them to access more post-secondary education opportunities. For many years we have provided VA educational beneficiaries with billions of dollars in educational assistance, but have given them little to no assistance in deciding where to use these benefits. This bill would put an end to that.

The GI Bill Consumer Awareness Act calls for disclosure of, among other data, statistics related to student loan debt, transferability of credits earned, veteran enrollment, program preparation for licensing and certification, and job placement rates, heard from many veterans that this type of information would be very useful to them as they make decisions about where to enroll.

My bill would also require VA to provide educational beneficiaries with easy-to-understand information about schools that are approved for GI Bill benefit use. Collecting data for data's sake is not the goal here. I want VA to use this information to develop a report card of sorts that allows veterans to see how one school compares against another to help them decide which school is right for them.

We must acknowledge the differences between student veterans and their civilian classmates. Unlike their classmates, servicemembers and veterans need to know what services institutions provide to ease their difficult transition to civilian life. Some educational institutions provide more support than others.

The University of Washington, one of the oldest public universities in my

home state, serves as an example of what all universities should be doing. Through its Veterans Center, the University of Washington offers its student veterans a place to connect with other veterans, access university resources, and receive referrals to campus and community resources that help to balance academic and personal demands. The University of Washington is helping to ease the transition from the battlefield to the classroom, and these types of services should be replicated across the country.

Despite this bright spot, I have heard from servicemembers and veterans who don't think their schools are in touch with the assistance that VA and other Agencies can provide to them. The GI Bill Consumer Awareness Act would require educational institutions to have at least one employee who is knowledgeable about benefits available to servicemembers and veterans.

My bill would further require that academic advising, tutoring, career and placement counseling services, and referrals to Vet Centers are available and that faculty members are trained on matters that are relevant to servicemembers and veterans. I want to make sure that each educational institution that is approved for GI Bill education benefits has the support services that student veterans need in order to make the most of their educational experience. No veteran should step on a college campus in this country and feel unsupported.

I am concerned about what I am seeing and hearing about groups who mislead our servicemembers and veterans—just to boost enrollment of students with a very lucrative benefit. The GI Bill Consumer Awareness Act would require VA and DoD to develop a joint policy on aggressive recruiting and misleading marketing aimed at servicemembers, veterans, and other beneficiaries.

When servicemembers and veterans make a decision about a school—it should be done with their own best interests at heart, and in consultation with their families and those Agencies with a mandate to help them. The GI Bill Consumer Awareness Act would make educational counseling available to more beneficiaries. As long as a beneficiary has educational entitlement—counseling from VA would be available. I really want VA to be proactive in its efforts to get these servicemembers and veterans in for counseling. This is an important step in choosing a school and career path and one that I hope that more student veterans take advantage of.

This is not a full summary of all the provisions within this legislation. However, I hope that I have provided an appropriate overview of the major benefits this legislation would provide for America's servicemembers after they leave military service. I also ask our colleagues for their continued support for the Nation's veterans.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the text of the bill was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

S. 2241

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “GI Bill Consumer Awareness Act of 2012”.

SEC. 2. PUBLICATION BY SECRETARY OF VETERANS AFFAIRS AND SECRETARY OF DEFENSE OF INFORMATION ABOUT EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS.

(a) PUBLICATION BY SECRETARY OF VETERANS AFFAIRS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Subchapter II of chapter 36 of title 38, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following new section:

“§3697B. Publication of information about educational institutions

“(a) PUBLICATION OF INFORMATION.—The Secretary shall, on an ongoing basis, make available to veterans, members of the Armed Forces, and other individuals eligible to receive or receiving assistance under this chapter or any of chapters 30 through 35 of this title or chapters 106A or 1606 of title 10 the information described in subsection (d) in language that can be easily understood by such veterans, members, and other individuals.

“(b) COLLECTION OF INFORMATION.—(1) In order to make the information described in subsection (d) available as required by subsection (a), the Secretary shall take such actions as may be necessary to obtain such information.

“(2) If the Secretary requires, for purposes of this section, information that has been reported by an educational institution to the Secretary of Education, the Secretary of Defense, the Secretary of Labor, or the heads of other Federal agencies under a provision of law other than under this section or section 3679A of this title, the Secretary shall obtain such information from such Secretary or head rather than the educational institution.

“(3) Making information available under subsection (a) shall not be required in a case in which the number of students in a category is insufficient to yield statistically reliable information or the results would reveal personally identifiable information about an individual student.

“(c) PARTNERSHIP WITH SECRETARY OF EDUCATION AND SECRETARY OF DEFENSE.—(1) The Secretary shall carry out subsections (a) and (b) in consultation and cooperation with the Secretary of Education and the Secretary of Defense.

“(2) If the Secretary of Education or the Secretary of Defense incur any costs in consulting or cooperating with the Secretary of Veterans Affairs under paragraph (1), the Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall reimburse the Secretary concerned, from amounts appropriated to the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, for such costs.

“(d) INFORMATION.—The information described in this subsection is as follows:

“(1) An explanation of the different types of accreditation available to educational institutions and programs of education.

“(2) A general overview of Federal student aid programs, the implications of incurring student loan debt, and discussion of how receipt of educational assistance under this chapter or any of chapters 30 through 35 of this title may enable students to complete programs of education without incurring significant educational debt.

“(3) For each educational institution at which an individual is enrolled in a program of education for which the individual receives assistance under this chapter or any of chapters 30 through 35 of this title or chapter 106A or 1606 of title 10 and for the most recent academic year for which information is available, the following:

“(A) The percentage of students who enroll in the first term of a program of education of the educational institution who on the date that is 1 year after the date of enrolling are not enrolled in any program of education at the educational institution.

“(B) The percentage of students enrolled in a program of education offered by the educational institution who complete the program of education within the normal time for completion of such program and the percentage of students enrolled in a program of education offered by the educational institution who complete the program of education within 150 percent of such period, disaggregated by students who receive and don't receive assistance for pursuit of the program of education under this chapter or any of chapters 30 through 35 of this title or chapter 106A or 1606 of title 10.

“(C) The number of degrees and certificates awarded by the educational institution and the number of students enrolled in programs of education at the educational institution that lead to a degree or a certificate.

“(D) The number of students enrolled in a program of education of the educational institution.

“(E) The rates of job placement of students who complete a program of education offered by the educational institution that prepares students for gainful employment in a recognized occupation and for other programs if such rates are available for such other programs.

“(F) The mean of the wages the students described in subparagraph (E) receive from their first positions of employment obtained after completing a program of education offered by the educational institution.

“(G) A description of the accreditation of the educational institution, if any, and the names of any national or regional accrediting agencies that have accredited the educational institution.

“(H) For each program of education offered by the educational institution, the following:

“(i) The percentage of students who enroll in the first term of the program of education who on the date that is 1 year after the date of enrolling are not enrolled in any program of education at the educational institution.

“(ii) The percentage of students enrolled in the program of education who complete the program of education within the normal time for completion of such program and the percentage of students enrolled in the program of education who complete the program of education within 150 percent of such period, disaggregated by students who receive and don't receive assistance for pursuit of the program of education under this chapter or any of chapters 30 through 35 of this title or chapter 106A or 1606 of title 10.

“(iii) The number of degrees or certificates awarded by the educational institution to individuals who enrolled in the program of education.

“(iv) The number of students enrolled in the program of education.

“(v) If the program of education is designed to prepare a student for a particular occupation, whether such occupation generally requires licensing or certification in the State in which the educational institution is located and if so, whether successfully completing such program of education generally qualifies an individual—

“(I) to obtain such licensing or certification;

“(II) to take an examination that is generally required to obtain such licensing or certification; or

“(III) to meet such other preconditions as may be necessary for employment in such occupation in such State.

“(vi) If the program of education is designed to prepare a student for a particular occupation that generally requires licensing or certification in the State in which the educational institution is located, the percentage of students who completed such program of education who obtained such licensing or certification.

“(vii) The rates of job placement of students who complete the program of education for programs of education that prepare students for gainful employment in a recognized occupation and for other programs if such rates are available for such other programs.

“(viii) The mean of the wages the students described in clause (vii) receive from their first positions of employment obtained after completing the program of education.

“(ix) A description of the accreditation of the program of education, if any, and the names of any national or regional accrediting agencies that have accredited the program of education.

“(I) An explanation of the following:

“(i) Whether academic credits awarded by the educational institution are transferable to public educational institutions in the State in which the educational institution is located.

“(ii) Any articulation agreements the educational institution may have with any other educational institutions.

“(iii) How the educational institution may or may not accept academic credit awarded by another educational institution, including whether the educational institution accepts the transfer of academic credits from the following:

“(I) The Army/American Council on Education Registry Transcript System.

“(II) The Sailor-Marine American Council on Education Registry Transcript.

“(III) The Community College of the Air Force.

“(IV) The United States Coast Guard Institute.

“(J) The average tuition and fees for all programs of education at the educational institution leading to a baccalaureate degree or lesser degree, license, or certificate and the average tuition and fees charged by public educational institutions for similar programs of education, disaggregated by State.

“(K) The median amount of debt from Federal student loans under title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1070 et seq.), and to the degree practicable, private student loans, held upon completion of a program of education by an individual who received assistance under chapter 30, 32, 33, or 34 of this title for pursuit of such program of education at the educational institution.

“(L) The cohort default rate, as defined in section 435(m) of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1085(m)), of the educational institution.

“(M) With respect to the information reported under subparagraphs (K) and (L), indicators of how the educational institution compares with all public educational institutions offering comparable programs of education.

“(N) Whether the educational institution is a public, private nonprofit, or private for-profit institution.

“(O) The number of veterans enrolled in programs of education at the educational institution who are receiving assistance under this chapter and chapters 30 through 35 of this title and chapters 106A and 1606 of title 10 for pursuit of such programs of education.

“(P) A description of the benefits and assistance veterans described in subparagraph (K) may be entitled to under the laws of the State or States in which the veterans receive instruction from the educational institution.

“(Q) A description of the educational institution's participation, if any, in the Yellow Ribbon G.I. Education Enhancement Program established under section 3317(a) of this title.

“(R) If the educational institution charges a lower rate of tuition for students who reside in the same State as the educational institution—

“(i) identification of the requirements for students to obtain in-State status for such lower rate of tuition; and

“(ii) a list of educational institutions located or incorporated in the same State as the educational institution that waive such requirements for veterans.”.

(2) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections at the beginning of chapter 36 of such title is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 3697A the following new item:

“3697B. Publication of information about educational institutions.”.

(3) EFFECTIVE DATE.—Section 3697B of title 38, United States Code, as added by paragraph (1), shall take effect on the date that is 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act and not later than such date, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall begin making information available as described in subsection (a) of such section.

(b) TRAINING FOR EMPLOYEES OF DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS EDUCATION CALL CENTERS.—Not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall ensure that appropriate employees of each of the education call centers of the Department of Veterans Affairs receive appropriate training regarding the information made available under section 3697B of title 38, United States Code, as added by subsection (a)(1).

(c) PUBLICATION BY SECRETARY OF DEFENSE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Defense shall, on an ongoing basis, make available to individuals eligible to receive or receiving assistance under the Military Spouse Career Advancement Account (MyCAA) program of the Department of Defense the information described in paragraph (4) in language that can be easily understood by such individuals.

(2) COLLECTION OF INFORMATION.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—In order to make the information described in paragraph (4) available as required by paragraph (1), the Secretary shall take such actions as may be necessary to obtain such information, including by requiring educational institutions to provide, as a condition of participating in such program, such information as the Secretary considers necessary to carry out this subsection.

(B) COLLECTION FROM OTHER FEDERAL AGENCIES.—If the Secretary of Defense requires, for purposes of this section, information that has been reported by an educational institution to the Secretary of Education, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, the Secretary of Labor, or the heads of other Federal agencies under a provision of law other than under this subsection, the Secretary of Defense shall obtain such information from such Secretary or head rather than the educational institution.

(C) PRIVACY.—Making information available under paragraph (1) shall not be required in a case in which the number of students in a category is insufficient to yield statistically reliable information or the results would reveal personally identifiable information about an individual student.

(3) PARTNERSHIP WITH SECRETARY OF EDUCATION.—The Secretary of Defense shall carry out paragraphs (1) and (2) in consultation and cooperation with the Secretary of Education.

(4) INFORMATION.—The information described in this paragraph is as follows:

(A) An explanation of the different types of accreditation available to educational institutions and programs of education.

(B) A general overview of Federal student aid programs and the implications of incurring student loan debt.

(C) For each educational institution at which an individual is enrolled in a program of education and receives assistance under the Military Spouse Career Advancement Account (MyCAA) program of the Department of Defense for pursuit of such program of education, the following:

(i) The percentage of students who enroll in the first term of a program of education of the educational institution who on the date that is 1 year after the date of enrolling are not enrolled in any program of education at the educational institution.

(ii) The percentage of students who transfer from one program of education offered by the educational institution to another program of education offered by the educational institution.

(iii) The rates of job placement of students who complete a program of education offered by the educational institution that prepares students for gainful employment in a recognized occupation and for other programs if such rates are available for such other programs.

(iv) The mean of the wages the students described in clause (iii) receive from their first positions of employment obtained after completing a program of education offered by the educational institution.

(v) A description of the accreditation of the educational institution, if any, and the names of any national or regional accrediting agencies that have accredited the educational institution.

(vi) For each program of education offered by the educational institution, the following:

(I) If the program of education is designed to prepare a student for a particular occupation, whether such occupation generally requires licensing or certification in the State in which the educational institution is located and if so, whether successfully completing such program of education generally qualifies an individual—

(aa) to obtain such licensing or certification;

(bb) to take an examination that is generally required to obtain such licensing or certification; or

(cc) to meet such other preconditions as may be necessary for employment in such occupation in such State.

(II) If the program of education is designed to prepare a student for a particular occupation that generally requires licensing or certification in the State in which the educational institution is located, the percentage of students who completed such program of education who obtained such licensing or certification.

(III) The rates of job placement of students who complete the program of education for programs of education that prepares students for gainful employment in a recognized occupation and for other programs if such rates are available for such other programs.

(IV) The mean of the wages the students described in subclause (III) receive from their first positions of employment obtained after completing the program of education.

(vii) An explanation of the following:

(I) Whether academic credits awarded by the educational institution are transferable to public educational institutions in the

State in which the educational institution is located.

(II) Any articulation agreements the educational institution may have with any other educational institutions.

(III) How the educational institution may or may not accept academic credit awarded by another educational institution

(viii) Whether the educational institution is a public, private nonprofit, or private for-profit institution.

(ix) If the educational institution is accredited, whether the educational institution has received disciplinary complaints from the accrediting agency that awarded such accreditation and the adjudication status of such complaints.

SEC. 3. ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS OF EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS FOR SUPPORT OF VETERANS AND MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES.

(a) ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS UNDER TITLE 38.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Subchapter I of chapter 36 of title 38, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following new section:

“§ 3679A. Additional requirements

“(a) AFFIRMATIVE REQUIREMENTS.—A course of education of an educational institution may not be approved under this chapter unless the educational institution carries out the following:

“(1) Compiling and disclosing to the Secretary such information as the Secretary may require to carry out section 3697B of this title to the extent that such information is available to the educational institution.

“(2) If more than 10 veterans or members of the Armed Forces are enrolled in a course of education at the educational institution, ensuring that at least one full-time equivalent employee of the educational institution is knowledgeable about benefits and assistance available to veterans and members of the Armed Forces under laws administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs and the Secretary of Defense.

“(3) Ensuring that appropriate employees of the educational institution are trained and qualified to handle assistance provided under this chapter, chapters 30 through 35 of this title, and chapters 106A and 1606 of title 10.

“(4) If more than 10 veterans or members of the Armed Forces are enrolled in a course of education at the educational institution, providing academic advising and support services to veterans, including remediation, tutoring, career and placement counseling services, and referrals to centers for readjustment counseling and related mental health services for veterans under section 1712A of this title (known as ‘vet centers’).

“(5) Offering training for members of the faculty of the educational institution on matters that are relevant to veterans and members of the Armed Forces who are enrolled in courses of education at the educational institution.

“(6) Agreeing to abide by the policies developed under section 3696(b) of this title.

“(7) Establishing a point of contact for veterans enrolled in courses of education at the educational institution who can—

“(A) assist such veterans in adjusting to student life at the educational institution; or

“(B) provide referrals to groups or organizations that provide such assistance.

“(b) PROHIBITIONS.—A course of education of an educational institution may not be approved under this chapter if the educational institution—

“(1) requires a student enrolled in the course of education to waive the student's right to legal recourse under any otherwise

applicable provision of Federal or State law; or

“(2) requires a student enrolled in the course of education to submit to arbitration or imposes onerous legal notice provisions in the case of a dispute with the educational institution.”.

(2) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections at the beginning of chapter 36 of such title is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 3679 the following new item:

“3679A. Additional requirements.”.

(3) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 3672(b)(2)(A) of such title is amended by striking “and 3696” and inserting “3696, and 3697B”.

(4) EFFECTIVE DATE.—Section 3679A of such title, as added by paragraph (1), shall take effect on the date that is 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act.

(b) MEMORANDUMS OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE AND EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 106A of title 10, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following new section:

“§ 2149A. Memorandums of understanding with educational institutions

“(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall seek to enter into a memorandum of understanding, not later than one year after the date of the enactment of the GI Bill Consumer Awareness Act of 2012, with each educational institution at which an individual is enrolled in a program of education for which the individual receives assistance under this chapter.

“(b) ELEMENTS.—Each memorandum of understanding entered into under subsection (a) shall require the educational institution with which the Secretary enters into the understanding to carry out paragraphs (2) through (7) of section 3679A(a) of title 38.

“(c) BAN ON RECRUITING ON MILITARY INSTALLATIONS.—No individual who represents an educational institution described in subsection (a) may enter a military facility of the United States for purposes of recruiting students for the educational institution if the educational institution has not entered into a memorandum of understanding with the Secretary under such subsection.”.

(2) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections at the beginning of chapter 106A of such title is amended by adding at the end the following new item:

“22149A. Memorandums of understanding with educational institutions.”.

SEC. 4. PROTECTIONS FOR VETERANS AND MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES ATTENDING EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS.

(a) POLICIES TO CURB AGGRESSIVE RECRUITING.—Section 3696 of title 38, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)—

(A) by inserting “, including utilizing third-party lead generators that gather names of prospective students through the use deceptive or misleading acts or practices” before the period at the end; and

(B) by inserting “(1)” before “The Secretary”;

(2) by redesignating subsections (b) and (c) as paragraphs (2) and (3), respectively;

(3) in paragraph (3), as redesignated by paragraph (2), by striking “under subsection (a)” each place it appears and inserting “under paragraph (1)”;

(4) by striking “this section” each place it appears and inserting “this subsection”; and

(5) by adding at the end the following new subsection (b):

“(b) Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of the GI Bill Consumer Awareness Act of 2012, the Secretary of Vet-

erans Affairs and the Secretary of Defense shall jointly develop policies to curb aggressive recruiting of veterans and members of the Armed Forces by educational institutions.”.

(b) PROHIBITION ON INDUCEMENTS.—Such section is further amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

“(c) The Secretary shall not approve a course offered by an educational institution if the educational institution uses inducements or provides any gratuity, favor, discount, entertainment, hospitality loan, transportation, lodging, meals, or other item having a monetary value of more than a de minimis amount to any individual or entity (other than salaries paid to employees or fees paid to contractors in conformity with all applicable provisions of law) for the purpose of securing enrollments.”.

(c) WORKING GROUP.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 36 of such title is amended by inserting after section 3692 the following new section:

“§ 3692A. Working group

“(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—Not later than 60 days after the date of the enactment of the GI Bill Consumer Awareness Act of 2012, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs and the Secretary of Defense shall jointly, in consultation with the Secretary of Education, establish a working group—

“(1) to coordinate consumer protection efforts of the Department of Veterans Affairs and the Department of Defense with respect to educational assistance provided under this chapter, chapters 30 through 35 of this title, and chapters 106A and 1606 of title 10; and

“(2) to develop policies related to postsecondary education marketing and recruitment of veterans and members of the Armed Forces.

“(b) DUTIES.—In coordinating efforts and developing policies under subsection (a), the working group shall—

“(1) survey veterans and members of the Armed Forces who have received educational assistance described in subsection (a)(1) to obtain feedback on the educational assistance received and on the program of education for which such assistance was received;

“(2) review marketing and recruitment practices carried out by educational institutions to determine whether the advertising practices of such institutions might be detrimental to veterans and members of the Armed Forces, including a review of Internet websites used for marketing and advertising campaigns targeted towards veterans and members of the Armed Forces; and

“(3) monitor the overall postsecondary education market for developments that affect veterans and members of the Armed Forces.

“(c) CONSULTATION.—In carrying out its duties under this section, the working group shall consult with appropriate Federal agencies (including the Department of Education and the Consumer Federal Protection Bureau), consumer protection groups, veterans service organizations, military service organizations, representatives of educational institutions, and representatives of such other groups or organizations as the Secretaries consider appropriate.

“(d) EXEMPTION FROM FACA.—The Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. App.) shall not apply to the working group established under subsection (a).

“(e) VETERANS SERVICE ORGANIZATION DEFINED.—In this section, the term ‘veterans service organization’ means any organization recognized by the Secretary for the representation of veterans under section 5902 of this title.”.

(2) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections at the beginning of chapter 36 of

such title is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 3692 the following new item:

“3692A. Working group.”.

(3) **REPORT.**—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the working group established under section 3692A of such title, as added by paragraph (1), shall submit to Congress a report on the activities of the working group under such section, including the following:

(A) The findings of the working group.

(B) The actions taken by the working group.

(C) The policies developed by the working group.

(D) Recommendations for such legislative and regulatory action as may be necessary to coordinate as described in paragraph (1) of section 3692A(a) of such title and develop policies as described in paragraph (2) of such section.

(d) **POLICIES ON CONFLICTS OF INTEREST BETWEEN EMPLOYEES OF DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS, DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE, AND EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS.**—Section 3683 of such title is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

“(e) The Secretary of Veterans Affairs and the Secretary of Defense shall develop policies for employees of the Department of Veterans Affairs and the Department of Defense, respectively, regarding conflicts of interest between employees of such departments and educational institutions.”.

SEC. 5. ASSESSMENT OF QUALITY AND DELIVERY OF CAREER INFORMATION AND COUNSELING TO MEMBERS OF ARMED FORCES AND VETERANS.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Defense and the Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall, in collaboration with the Secretary of Labor and the Secretary of Education, assess the quality and delivery of career information and counseling provided to members of the Armed Forces and veterans enrolled in (or planning to enroll in) programs of education with assistance under chapter 106A or 1606 of title 10, United States Code, or any of chapters 30 through 36 of title 38, United States Code. Such assessment shall address, at minimum, the following:

(1) Whether such information and counseling is relevant to the labor-markets in which such members or veterans plan to relocate, if applicable.

(2) Whether such information and counseling identifies careers that are available in in-demand occupations and industries in such labor-markets.

(3) Whether such information and counseling identifies the education and credentials required for such careers.

(4) Whether assessments provided to such members and veterans as part of such counseling of the skills and credentials of such members and veterans match such skills and credentials with the skills and credentials required for jobs in the civilian workforce.

(5) Whether the assessments described in paragraph (4) identify the additional skills or credentials members and veterans described in such paragraph may need for employment in jobs in the civilian workforce.

(6) Whether such information identifies the education and training programs that provide the skills necessary for such careers in such labor-markets.

(7) Whether such information is provided in a timely manner.

(b) **COLLABORATION WITH THE ONE-STOP DELIVERY SYSTEM AND TRANSITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS.**—In carrying out subsection (a), the Secretary of Defense and the Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall, in collaboration with the Secretary of Labor, determine how

programs that provide education and career counseling services to members of the Armed Forces and veterans under laws administered by the Secretary of Defense and the Secretary of Veterans Affairs should—

(1) collaborate and improve information sharing with one-stop delivery systems established under section 134(c) of the Workforce Investment Act of 1998 (29 U.S.C. 2864(c)), including collaboration through electronic means, to provide the information described in subsection (a) to the members of the Armed Forces before such members transition from service in the Armed Forces to civilian life; and

(2) coordinate with—

(A) each other;

(B) the Transition Assistance Program (TAP) of the Department of Defense;

(C) the services provided under sections 1142, 1143, and 1144 of title 10, United States Code;

(D) the programs established under section 235(b) of the VOW to Hire Heroes Act of 2011 (Public Law 112-56; 38 U.S.C. 4214 note); and

(E) the demonstration project established under section 4114 of title 38, United States Code.

(c) **REPORT.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Defense and the Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall submit to the appropriate committees of Congress a report on the assessment completed under subsection (a), including recommendations for such legislative, regulatory, and administrative action as the Secretaries consider necessary to improve the provision of career information relevant to programs of education pursued by members of the Armed Forces and veterans to such members and veterans.

(2) **APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES OF CONGRESS.**—In this subsection, the term “appropriate committees of Congress” means—

(A) the Committee on Armed Services, the Committee on Veterans’ Affairs, and the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions of the Senate; and

(B) the Committee on Armed Services, the Committee on Veterans’ Affairs, and the Committee on Education and the Workforce of the House of Representatives.

SEC. 6. EXPANSION OF ELIGIBILITY FOR EDUCATIONAL AND VOCATIONAL COUNSELING.

Section 3697A(b) of title 38, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by striking paragraphs (2) and (3);

(2) in paragraph (1), by adding “or” at the end; and

(3) by adding at the end the following new paragraph (2):

“(2) is serving on active duty in any State with the Armed Forces and has served in the Armed Forces on active duty for not fewer than 180 days.”.

SEC. 7. SUBMITTAL OF COMPLAINTS REGARDING PROGRAMS OF EDUCATION AND EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—Chapter 36 of title 38, United States Code, is amended by inserting after section 3693 the following new section:

“§ 3693A. Complaint process

“(a) **SUBMITTAL OF COMPLAINTS.**—The Secretary shall establish procedures for submittal to the Secretary of complaints by a students who are pursuing programs of education with assistance under this chapter, any of chapters 30 through 35 of this title, or chapters 106A or 1606 of title 10 regarding such programs of education or such assistance.

“(b) **DATABASE.**—The Secretary shall establish a database to store complaints submitted under subsection (a) to enable the Secretary—

“(1) to improve the provision of assistance under this chapter and chapters 30 through 35 of this title;

“(2) to improve the provision of educational and vocational counseling under section 3697A of this title; and

“(3) to identify problems with the programs of education or assistance described in subsection (a) that warrant further investigation by the Secretary.”.

(b) **CLERICAL AMENDMENT.**—The table of sections at the beginning of chapter 36 of such title is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 3693 the following new item:

“3693A. Complaint process.”.

SEC. 8. COLLECTION AND DISSEMINATION OF BEST PRACTICES FOR PROVISION BY EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS OF ASSISTANCE TO STUDENTS WHO ARE VETERANS OR MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—Not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act and two and four years thereafter, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall, in collaboration with the Secretary of Education and the Secretary of Defense, collect and disseminate information about best practices for the provision by educational institutions of assistance to students who are veterans and students who are members of the Armed Forces to help them successfully enter, persist in, and complete programs of education.

(b) **CONSULTATION WITH VETERANS SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS.**—In carrying out subsection (a), the Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall consult with veterans service organizations and educational institutions.

SEC. 9. REPEAL OF LIMITATION ON PAYMENTS FOR CONTRACT EDUCATIONAL AND VOCATIONAL COUNSELING.

Section 3697 of title 38, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by striking subsection (b); and

(2) in subsection (a), by striking “(a) Subject to subsection (b) of this section, educational” and inserting “Educational”.

SEC. 10. DEDICATED POINTS OF CONTACT FOR SCHOOL CERTIFYING OFFICIALS.

Section 3684 of title 38, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

“(d) Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of the GI Bill Consumer Awareness Act of 2012, the Secretary shall ensure that the Department employs personnel dedicated to assisting personnel of educational institutions who are charged with submitting reports or certifications to the Secretary under this section.”.

SEC. 11. REPORT ON NUMBER OF RECIPIENTS OF EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE UNDER LAWS ADMINISTERED BY SECRETARY OF VETERANS AFFAIRS.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall submit to the Committee on Veterans’ Affairs of the Senate and the Committee on Veterans’ Affairs of the House of Representatives a report on the receipt of educational assistance under laws administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs during the last academic year ending before the submittal of the report.

(b) **ELEMENTS.**—The report required by subsection (a) shall include the following, for the period covered by the report:

(1) A list of all educational institutions at which an individual is enrolled in a program of education for which the individual receives assistance under a law administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs.

(2) For each educational institution listed under paragraph (1), the number of individuals who receive assistance under a law administered by the Secretary to pursue a program of education at the educational institution.

(3) For each educational institution listed under paragraph (1), the total amount of assistance paid under laws administered by the Secretary to individuals enrolled in programs of education at the educational institution for pursuit of such programs and paid to the educational institution for the education of individuals.

SEC. 12. PERFORMANCE METRICS FOR DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE EDUCATION AND WORKFORCE TRAINING PROGRAMS.

(a) ESTABLISHMENT OF METRICS.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Defense shall, in consultation with the Secretary of Education and the Secretary of Labor, establish metrics for tracking the successful completion of education and workforce training programs carried out under laws administered by the Secretary of Defense.

(b) REPORT ON METRICS.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Defense shall submit to the appropriate committees of Congress a report on the metrics established under subsection (a), including a description of each such metric.

(c) ANNUAL ASSESSMENT.—Not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act and not less frequently than once each year thereafter, the Secretary of Defense shall submit to the appropriate committees of Congress an assessment of the education and workforce training programs described in subsection (a) using the metrics established under such subsection.

(d) APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES OF CONGRESS.—In this section, the term “appropriate committees of Congress” means—

(1) the Committee on Armed Services and the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate; and

(2) the Committee on Armed Services and the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives.

SEC. 13. PRIVACY.

Nothing in this title or any of the amendments made by this title shall be construed to authorize the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, the Secretary of Defense, the Secretary of Education, or the Secretary of Labor to release to the public information about an individual that is otherwise prohibited by a provision of law.

SEC. 14. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION AND PROGRAM OF EDUCATION.—The terms “educational institution” and “program of education” have the meanings given such terms in section 3501 of title 38, United States Code.

(2) VETERANS SERVICE ORGANIZATION.—The term “veterans service organization” means any organization recognized by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs for the representation of veterans under section 5902 of such title.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 407—EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE SENATE THAT EXECUTIVES OF THE BANKRUPT FIRM MF GLOBAL SHOULD NOT BE REWARDED WITH BONUSES WHILE CUSTOMER MONEY IS STILL MISSING

Ms. STABENOW (for herself and Mr. ROBERTS) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 407

Whereas on October 31, 2011, MF Global Holdings, Ltd., filed for Chapter 11 bank-

ruptcy protection in the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Southern District of New York after reporting that as much as \$900,000,000 in customer money had gone missing;

Whereas MF Global Holdings, Ltd. is the parent company of MF Global, Inc., formerly a futures commission merchant and broker-dealer for thousands of commodities and securities customers;

Whereas following the bankruptcy filing, Judge Louis Freeh, the court-appointed trustee for the liquidation of MF Global Holdings, retained certain employees of the MF Global entities at the time of the bankruptcy, including the chief operating officer, the chief financial officer, the general counsel, and other individuals, in order to assist the liquidation process;

Whereas on March 8, 2012, the Wall Street Journal reported that Mr. Freeh may ask the bankruptcy court judge to approve performance-related bonuses for the chief operating officer, chief financial officer, the general counsel, and the other employees;

Whereas according to the court-appointed trustee for the liquidation of MF Global, Inc. under the Securities Investor Protection Act of 1970 (15 U.S.C. 78aaa et seq.), Mr. James Giddens, the total amount of customer funds still missing could be as much as \$1,600,000,000;

Whereas on March 15, 2012, all of the members of the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry of the Senate sent a letter to Mr. Freeh urging him not to reward senior executives of the bankrupt MF Global entities with performance-related bonuses while customer money is still missing;

Whereas on March 16, 2012, Mr. Freeh responded to the members of the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry of the Senate, stating that he has not made any decisions regarding the payment of bonuses to former senior executives of the firm;

Whereas the Commodity Futures Trading Commission, the court-appointed trustee for the liquidation of MF Global, Inc. under the Securities Investor Protection Act of 1970 (15 U.S.C. 78aaa et seq.), and other Federal authorities are investigating the events leading up to the bankruptcy in an effort to return customer money and prosecute any wrongdoing; and

Whereas as of the date of agreement to this resolution, none of the investigators have stated public conclusions regarding the exact location of the missing money or whether criminal wrongdoing was involved: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That it is the sense of the Senate that bonuses should not be paid to the executives and employees who were responsible for the day-to-day management and operations of MF Global until its customers' segregated account funds are repaid in full and investigations by Federal authorities have revealed both the cause of, and parties responsible for, the loss of millions of dollars of customer money.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 1953. Mr. MENENDEZ submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2204, to eliminate unnecessary tax subsidies and promote renewable energy and energy conservation; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1954. Mr. MENENDEZ submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2204, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1955. Mr. KOHL (for himself, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. CASEY, Mr. BROWN of Ohio, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. MANCHIN, and

Mr. SCHUMER) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2204, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1956. Mr. BARRASSO submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2204, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1957. Mr. BARRASSO submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2204, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1958. Mr. HELLER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2204, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1959. Mr. PAUL submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2204, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1960. Mr. PAUL submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2204, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1961. Mr. PRYOR submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2204, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1962. Mr. PRYOR submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2204, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1963. Mr. INHOFE (for himself and Mr. BARRASSO) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2204, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1964. Mr. BROWN, of Massachusetts submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2204, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1965. Mr. VITTER (for himself and Mr. SESSIONS) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2204, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1966. Mr. WICKER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2204, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1967. Mr. INHOFE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2204, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1968. Mr. REID proposed an amendment to the bill S. 2204, supra.

SA 1969. Mr. REID proposed an amendment to amendment SA 1968 proposed by Mr. REID to the bill S. 2204, supra.

SA 1970. Mr. REID proposed an amendment to the bill S. 2204, supra.

SA 1971. Mr. REID proposed an amendment to amendment SA 1970 proposed by Mr. REID to the bill S. 2204, supra.

SA 1972. Mr. REID proposed an amendment to amendment SA 1971 proposed by Mr. REID to the amendment SA 1970 proposed by Mr. REID to the bill S. 2204, supra.

SA 1973. Mr. TESTER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2204, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1974. Mr. INHOFE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2204, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1975. Mr. MERKLEY (for himself, Mr. LEE, Mr. TESTER, Mr. BAUCUS, and Mr. WYDEN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 1789, to improve, sustain, and transform the United States Postal Service; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1976. Ms. MURKOWSKI (for herself, Mr. VITTER, Mr. BEGICH, and Mr. BARRASSO) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 2204, to eliminate unnecessary tax subsidies and promote renewable energy and energy conservation; which was ordered to lie on the table.