

All-Volunteer Force Educational Assistance Program and Post-9/11 Educational Assistance to charge veterans tuition and fees at the in-State tuition rate, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mrs. SHAHEEN (for herself, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. BEGICH, Mrs. HAGAN, and Mr. FRANKEN):

S. 945. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to improve access to diabetes self-management training by authorizing certified diabetes educators to provide diabetes self-management training services, including as part of telehealth services, under part B of the Medicare program; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. WICKER (for himself, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. BLUNT, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mr. BURR, Mr. COATS, Mr. COBURN, Mr. COCHRAN, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. ENZI, Mrs. FISCHER, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. JOHANNIS, Mr. MORAN, Mr. PAUL, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. ROBERTS, Mr. THUNE, Mr. VITTER, Mr. LEE, and Mr. RUBIO):

S. 946. A bill to prohibit taxpayer funded abortions, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mrs. HAGAN (for herself, Mr. TOOMEY, Mr. MANCHIN, and Mr. JOHANNIS):

S. 947. A bill to ensure access to certain information for financial services industry regulators, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. SCHUMER (for himself and Mr. COCHRAN):

S. 948. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for coverage and payment for complex rehabilitation technology items under the Medicare program; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. MANCHIN (for himself and Mr. JOHANNIS):

S. 949. A bill to amend the Truth in Lending Act to improve upon the definitions provided for points and fees in connection with a mortgage transaction; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. MORAN (for himself and Mr. KING):

S. 950. A bill to amend the Controlled Substances Act to allow a veterinarian to transport and dispense controlled substances in the usual course of veterinary practice outside of the registered location; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. ENZI (for himself, Mr. UDALL of New Mexico, Mr. BARRASSO, Ms. HEITKAMP, Mr. HATCH, Mr. HOEVEN, and Mr. RISCH):

S. 951. A bill to amend the Mineral Leasing Act to require the Secretary of the Interior to convey to a State all right, title, and interest in and to a percentage of the amount of royalties and other amounts required to be paid to the State under that Act with respect to public land and deposits in the State, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. CARDIN (for himself and Mr. PORTMAN):

S. 952. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to clarify the treatment of church pension plans, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. REED (for himself, Mr. HARKIN, Mr. REID, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. ROCKEFELLER, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. FRANKEN, Mr. BROWN, Mr. MURPHY, Mr. DURBIN, and Mrs. GILLIBRAND):

S. 953. A bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to extend the reduced interest rate for undergraduate Federal Direct Stafford Loans, to modify required distribu-

tion rules for pension plans, to limit earnings stripping by expatriated entities, to provide for modifications related to the Oil Spill Liability Trust Fund, and for other purposes; read the first time.

By Ms. STABENOW:

S. 954. An original bill to reauthorize agricultural programs through 2018; from the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry; placed on the calendar.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

The following concurrent resolutions and Senate resolutions were read, and referred (or acted upon), as indicated:

By Mr. LEAHY (for himself, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. CARDIN, and Mr. TOOMEY):

S. Res. 140. A resolution commemorating and acknowledging the dedication and sacrifices made by the Federal, State, and local law enforcement officers who have been killed or injured in the line of duty; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. BEGICH (for himself, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. WARNER, Mr. HELLER, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. REID, Mr. KIRK, Mr. SCOTT, Mr. SCHATZ, and Mr. BLUNT):

S. Res. 141. A resolution recognizing the goals of National Travel and Tourism Week and honoring the valuable contributions of travel and tourism to the United States; considered and agreed to.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 214

At the request of Ms. KLOBUCHAR, the name of the Senator from California (Mrs. BOXER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 214, a bill to prohibit brand name drug companies from compensating generic drug companies to delay the entry of a generic drug into the market.

S. 217

At the request of Mrs. MURRAY, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 217, a bill to amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to require the Secretary of Education to collect information from coeducational elementary schools and secondary schools on such schools' athletic programs, and for other purposes.

S. 294

At the request of Mr. TESTER, the names of the Senator from Virginia (Mr. Kaine) and the Senator from Colorado (Mr. UDALL) were added as cosponsors of S. 294, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to improve the disability compensation evaluation procedure of the Secretary of Veterans Affairs for veterans with mental health conditions related to military sexual trauma, and for other purposes.

S. 309

At the request of Mr. HARKIN, the names of the Senator from New Hampshire (Ms. AYOTTE), the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN), the Senator from Wisconsin (Ms. BALDWIN), the Senator from Iowa (Mr. GRASSLEY), the Senator from Colorado (Mr. BENNET), the Senator from Wyoming (Mr.

ENZI), the Senator from Missouri (Mr. BLUNT), the Senator from Ohio (Mr. PORTMAN), the Senator from Virginia (Mr. Kaine), the Senator from Florida (Mr. RUBIO), the Senator from Alabama (Mr. SHELBY), the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. COWAN), the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MORAN), the Senator from Florida (Mr. NELSON), the Senator from Oregon (Mr. MERKLEY), the Senator from Maine (Mr. KING), the Senator from Kansas (Mr. ROBERTS) and the Senator from Montana (Mr. BAUCUS) were added as cosponsors of S. 309, a bill to award a Congressional Gold Medal to the World War II members of the Civil Air Patrol.

S. 316

At the request of Mr. SANDERS, the names of the Senator from Maryland (Ms. MIKULSKI) and the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE) were added as cosponsors of S. 316, a bill to recalculate and restore retirement annuity obligations of the United States Postal Service, to eliminate the requirement that the United States Postal Service prefund the Postal Service Retiree Health Benefits Fund, to place restrictions on the closure of postal facilities, to create incentives for innovation for the United States Postal Service, to maintain levels of postal service, and for other purposes.

S. 351

At the request of Mr. CORNYN, the name of the Senator from Nevada (Mr. HELLER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 351, a bill to repeal the provisions of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act of providing for the Independent Payment Advisory Board.

S. 382

At the request of Mr. SCHUMER, the names of the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. FRANKEN) and the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. THUNE) were added as cosponsors of S. 382, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to allow physician assistants, nurse practitioners, and clinical nurse specialists to supervise cardiac, intensive cardiac, and pulmonary rehabilitation programs.

S. 425

At the request of Ms. STABENOW, the name of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. WYDEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 425, a bill to amend title XI of the Social Security Act to improve the quality, health outcomes, and value of maternity care under the Medicaid and CHIP programs by developing maternity care quality measures and supporting maternity care quality collaboratives.

S. 463

At the request of Mr. PRYOR, the name of the Senator from Alabama (Mr. SESSIONS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 463, a bill to amend the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 to modify the definition of the term "biobased product".

S. 466

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the name of the Senator from Maine (Ms.

COLLINS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 466, a bill to assist low-income individuals in obtaining recommended dental care.

S. 506

At the request of Ms. COLLINS, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) was added as a cosponsor of S. 506, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide recruitment and retention incentives for volunteer emergency service workers.

S. 538

At the request of Mrs. MCCASKILL, the name of the Senator from Virginia (Mr. Kaine) was added as a cosponsor of S. 538, a bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to modify the authorities and responsibilities of convening authorities in taking actions on the findings and sentences of courts-martial.

S. 541

At the request of Ms. LANDRIEU, the name of the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 541, a bill to prevent human health threats posed by the consumption of equines raised in the United States.

S. 579

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the names of the Senator from California (Mrs. BOXER), the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. JOHANNES) and the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. MURPHY) were added as cosponsors of S. 579, a bill to direct the Secretary of State to develop a strategy to obtain observer status for Taiwan at the triennial International Civil Aviation Organization Assembly, and for other purposes.

S. 635

At the request of Mr. BROWN, the names of the Senator from Missouri (Mrs. MCCASKILL), the Senator from Georgia (Mr. ISAKSON) and the Senator from Alaska (Ms. MURKOWSKI) were added as cosponsors of S. 635, a bill to amend the Gramm-Leach-Bliley Act to provide an exception to the annual written privacy notice requirement.

S. 653

At the request of Mr. BLUNT, the name of the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. JOHANNES) was added as a cosponsor of S. 653, a bill to provide for the establishment of the Special Envoy to Promote Religious Freedom of Religious Minorities in the Near East and South Central Asia.

S. 669

At the request of Mr. PRYOR, the names of the Senator from Idaho (Mr. CRAPO), the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. THUNE) and the Senator from Kansas (Mr. ROBERTS) were added as cosponsors of S. 669, a bill to make permanent the Internal Revenue Service Free File program.

S. 674

At the request of Mr. HELLER, the name of the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. VITTER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 674, a bill to require prompt responses from the heads of covered Fed-

eral agencies when the Secretary of Veterans Affairs requests information necessary to adjudicate claims for benefits under laws administered by the Secretary, and for other purposes.

S. 700

At the request of Mr. KAINE, the name of the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. JOHANNES) was added as a cosponsor of S. 700, a bill to ensure that the education and training provided members of the Armed Forces and veterans better assists members and veterans in obtaining civilian certifications and licenses, and for other purposes.

S. 755

At the request of Ms. KLOBUCHAR, the names of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL) and the Senator from Maine (Mr. KING) were added as cosponsors of S. 755, a bill to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to apply the Medicaid primary care payment rate to additional physician providers of primary care services.

S. 764

At the request of Mr. CORNYN, the name of the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. COBURN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 764, a bill to amend title XXVII of the Public Health Service Act to require the disclosure of information regarding how certain taxes and fees impact the amount of premiums, and for other purposes.

S. 789

At the request of Mr. BAUCUS, the names of the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. JOHANNES), the Senator from Iowa (Mr. HARKIN) and the Senator from Kansas (Mr. ROBERTS) were added as cosponsors of S. 789, a bill to grant the Congressional Gold Medal, collectively, to the First Special Service Force, in recognition of its superior service during World War II.

S. 813

At the request of Ms. CANTWELL, her name was added as a cosponsor of S. 813, a bill to require that Peace Corps volunteers be subject to the same limitations regarding coverage of abortion services as employees of the Peace Corps with respect to coverage of such services, and for other purposes.

S. 862

At the request of Ms. AYOTTE, the name of the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. INHOFE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 862, a bill to amend section 5000A of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide an additional religious exemption from the individual health coverage mandate.

S. 865

At the request of Mr. WHITEHOUSE, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) was added as a cosponsor of S. 865, a bill to provide for the establishment of a Commission to Accelerate the End of Breast Cancer.

S. 871

At the request of Mr. BENNET, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 871, a bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to enhance assistance for

victims of sexual assault committed by members of the Armed Forces, and for other purposes.

At the request of Mrs. FEINSTEIN, her name was added as a cosponsor of S. 871, *supra*.

S. 892

At the request of Mr. KIRK, the names of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE), the Senator from Alaska (Mr. BEGICH), the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. BOOZMAN), the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. JOHANNES) and the Senator from Florida (Mr. RUBIO) were added as cosponsors of S. 892, a bill to amend the Iran Threat Reduction and Syria Human Rights Act of 2012 to impose sanctions with respect to certain transactions in foreign currencies, and for other purposes.

S. 897

At the request of Ms. WARREN, the names of the Senator from California (Mrs. BOXER), the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. ROCKEFELLER) and the Senator from Oregon (Mr. MERKLEY) were added as cosponsors of S. 897, a bill to prevent the doubling of the interest rate for Federal subsidized student loans for the 2013-2014 academic year by providing funds for such loans through the Federal Reserve System, to ensure that such loans are available at interest rates that are equivalent to the interest rates at which the Federal Government provides loans to banks through the discount window operated by the Federal Reserve System, and for other purposes.

S. 901

At the request of Mr. CASEY, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) was added as a cosponsor of S. 901, a bill to protect State and local witnesses from tampering and retaliation, and for other purposes.

S. RES. 133

At the request of Mr. LEE, the name of the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. COBURN) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 133, a resolution expressing the sense of the Senate that Congress and the States should investigate and correct abusive, unsanitary, and illegal abortion practices.

AMENDMENT NO. 856

At the request of Mr. BROWN, the name of the Senator from Missouri (Mr. BLUNT) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 856 intended to be proposed to S. 601, a bill to provide for the conservation and development of water and related resources, to authorize the Secretary of the Army to construct various projects for improvements to rivers and harbors of the United States, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 857

At the request of Mr. LEVIN, the name of the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 857 intended to be proposed to S. 601, a bill to provide for the conservation and development of water and related resources, to authorize the Secretary of the Army to

construct various projects for improvements to rivers and harbors of the United States, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 868

At the request of Mr. BARRASSO, the names of the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. COCHRAN), the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. BOOZMAN) and the Senator from Nevada (Mr. HELLER) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 868 proposed to S. 601, a bill to provide for the conservation and development of water and related resources, to authorize the Secretary of the Army to construct various projects for improvements to rivers and harbors of the United States, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 874

At the request of Mr. LEVIN, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 874 intended to be proposed to S. 601, a bill to provide for the conservation and development of water and related resources, to authorize the Secretary of the Army to construct various projects for improvements to rivers and harbors of the United States, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 893

At the request of Mr. LEVIN, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. PORTMAN) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 893 proposed to S. 601, a bill to provide for the conservation and development of water and related resources, to authorize the Secretary of the Army to construct various projects for improvements to rivers and harbors of the United States, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 907

At the request of Mr. BROWN, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. PORTMAN) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 907 proposed to S. 601, a bill to provide for the conservation and development of water and related resources, to authorize the Secretary of the Army to construct various projects for improvements to rivers and harbors of the United States, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 909

At the request of Mr. HOEVEN, the names of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. THUNE), the Senator from North Dakota (Ms. HEITKAMP), the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. JOHNSON) and the Senator from Montana (Mr. BAUCUS) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 909 proposed to S. 601, a bill to provide for the conservation and development of water and related resources, to authorize the Secretary of the Army to construct various projects for improvements to rivers and harbors of the United States, and for other purposes.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. SANDERS (for himself and Mr. BURR):

S. 944. 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 All-Volunteer Force Educational Assistance Program and Post-9/11 Educational Assistance to charge veterans tuition and fees at the in-State tuition rate, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

Mr. SANDERS. Mr. President, today, as Chairman of the Senate Committee on Veterans' Affairs, I am proud to introduce the Veterans' Educational Transition Act of 2013.

My colleague and ranking member of the Senate Committee on Veterans' Affairs, Senator BURR, joins me in introducing this important legislation.

The Department of Defense estimates that approximately 250,000 to 300,000 servicemembers will separate annually for the next 4 years. That is more than one million brave men and women who will face the harsh reality of transitioning back to civilian life. Many of them will elect to further their education by using the most lucrative benefit afforded to them since WWII—the Post-9/11 GI Bill. Since 2009, the Department of Veterans Affairs, VA, has paid nearly 1 million Post-9/11 GI Bill beneficiaries more than \$28 billion.

The Post-9/11 GI Bill stands as a testament of our willingness to invest in our newest generation of veterans. Unfortunately, this investment often falls short of what they need to complete a post-secondary education and successfully transition back to civilian life. They deserve better.

Given the nature of our Armed Forces, servicemembers have little to no say as to where they serve and where they reside during their military service. Thus, when transitioning servicemembers consider what educational institution they want to attend, many of them choose a school in their home State or a State where they previously served.

I have heard from too many veterans that many of these public educational institutions consider them out-of-State students. Given that the Post-9/11 GI Bill only covers in-State tuition and fees for public educational institutions, these veterans are left to cover the difference in cost between the in-State tuition rate and the out-of-State tuition rate. In some States, this difference can be more than \$20,000 per year. As a result, many of our Nation's veterans must use loans to cover this difference and in the process become indebted with large school loans that will take years to pay off.

I applaud the States that have taken initiative to assist our veterans by recognizing them as in-State students for purposes of attending a public educational institution. Yet, there are too many States that still require transitioning veterans to meet stringent residency requirements before they can be considered in-State students. Recently separated veterans may not be able to meet such require-

ments because of their military service, and once enrolled, they cannot legally establish residency because of their status as full-time students.

The Veterans Educational Transition Act of 2013 would require States, as a condition for course approval under the Post-9/11 GI Bill or Montgomery GI Bill, to recognize certain veterans and their dependents using these education benefits as in-State students for purposes of attending a public institution. The veteran must be within 2 years from the date of discharge, and the individual using the benefit must live in the State while attending the school.

This legislation would help our brave men and women who have sacrificed so much in defense of our country transition to the civilian workforce by giving them a fair shot at attaining their educational goals without incurring an additional financial burden simply because they chose to serve their country.

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. 944

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 "Veterans' Educational Transition Act of 2013".

SEC. 2. APPROVAL OF COURSES OF EDUCATION PROVIDED BY PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION FOR PURPOSES OF ALL-VOLUNTEER FORCE EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM AND POST-9/11 EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE CONDITIONAL ON IN-STATE TUITION RATE FOR VETERANS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 3679 of title 38, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

“(c)(1) Notwithstanding any other provision of this chapter and subject to paragraphs (3) through (5), the Secretary shall disapprove a course of education provided by a public institution of higher education to a covered individual pursuing a course of education with educational assistance under chapter 30 or 33 of this title while living in the State in which the public institution of higher education is located if the institution charges tuition and fees for that course for the covered individual at a rate that is higher than the rate the institution charges for tuition and fees for that course for residents of the State in which the institution is located, regardless of the covered individual's State of residence.

“(2) For purposes of this subsection, a covered individual is any individual as follows:

“(A) A veteran who was discharged or released from a period of not fewer than 180 days of service in the active military, naval, or air service less than two years before the date of enrollment in the course concerned.

“(B) An individual who is entitled to assistance under section 3311(b)(9) or 3319 of this title by virtue such individual's relationship to a veteran described in subparagraph (A).

“(3) It shall not be grounds to disapprove a course of education under paragraph (1) if a public institution of higher education requires a covered individual pursuing a course of education at the institution to demonstrate an intent to establish residency in