

and for working with Mrs. BUSTOS on this bill. I also thank the Paralyzed Veterans of America for highlighting the need to include catastrophically disabled veterans and families in our work to improve the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act.

Finally, I applaud the bipartisan work of Congressmen Levin and Bilirakis on this bill and their work on the Economic Opportunity Subcommittee.

I encourage all of my colleagues to join me in voting for H.R. 2227, as amended.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. DAVID P. ROE of Tennessee. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, today I rise in support of H.R. 2227, as amended, the Gold Star Spouses and Spouses of Injured Servicemembers Leasing Relief Act of 2019.

This bill would build upon legislation enacted last Congress and in the fiscal year 2020 National Defense Authorization Act to amend the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act to allow a surviving spouse of a servicemember who died on active duty to terminate a property lease following the servicemember's death.

This bill would expand that allowance to include motor vehicle leases and provide the same protection for spouses of servicemembers who are catastrophically injured in service.

Madam Speaker, the last thing a husband or wife should have to worry about when their servicemember spouse dies or is grievously injured in service to our country are late fees or penalties for terminating a lease for a car or property. Ensuring that they don't have to is the very least we can do in exchange for their sacrifice.

I thank my colleagues, Congresswoman CHERI BUSTOS from Illinois, my friend Dr. BRAD WENSTRUP from Ohio, a fellow veteran and former senior committee member, as well as all the other Members of Congress who worked so hard on this bill in order to clarify these protections for these most deserving men and women.

I encourage and urge all my colleagues to join me in supporting H.R. 2227, as amended.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. TAKANO. Madam Speaker, I have no further speakers. I am prepared to close, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. DAVID P. ROE of Tennessee. Madam Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. WENSTRUP), my good friend, and Iraq war veteran. I commend him on his work on this bill.

Mr. WENSTRUP. Madam Speaker, it is a tragedy any time a United States servicemember is killed or gravely injured in the line of duty. Those events, however, don't happen in a vacuum. They have lasting impacts on that hero's family and their loved ones.

That is why I rise in support of this bill, H.R. 2227, which I introduced with Representative BUSTOS. Our legislation would give spouses and dependents of servicemembers who are killed or catastrophically injured in the line of duty the flexibility to move closer to family and friends for support, because no one enduring that type of life-altering event should go through it alone.

In 2018, Representative BUSTOS and I worked together to pass the Gold Star Spouses Leasing Relief Act and get it signed into law. It gave Gold Star spouses the ability to terminate their property leases without penalty if their servicemember was killed in the line of duty.

We expanded those protections to include auto leases, as well, in last year's National Defense Authorization Act.

Now, this bill builds upon the good work of those two efforts by extending those protections to dependents of servicemembers in addition to spouses.

I thank Representative BUSTOS and the members of the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs for their work in bringing this important bill to the floor.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 2227.

Mr. DAVID P. ROE of Tennessee. Madam Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

Madam Speaker, I encourage all of my colleagues to support this bill.

This takes me back to when I was in college in 1965, and my scout master was killed in Vietnam leaving behind four children. They were responsible for all these things with no resources, no money. I think our lives then were worth, at the most, if you bought extra insurance, \$20,000, not much money.

This is the right thing to do. I am sorry it took 50 years to get it done. I certainly appreciate all of my colleagues, especially my good friend Dr. WENSTRUP and Representative BUSTOS who brought this to our attention and got it done.

I encourage all my colleagues to support this bill.

Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. TAKANO. Madam Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

I associate myself with the remarks of the ranking member. A catastrophic medical condition associated with someone who has worn the uniform of our Nation in service of our Nation should not also be accompanied by his family or her family needing to worry about paying off a lease on a home or a car.

The law of the United States should reflect the gratitude that the people have for a servicemember's service to our country. This is the right thing to do, and I encourage all of my colleagues to, again, join me in passing H.R. 2227, as amended.

Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by

the gentleman from California (Mr. TAKANO) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 2227, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

The title of the bill was amended so as to read: "A bill to amend the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act to clarify the authority of servicemembers who incur a catastrophic injury or illness while in military service to terminate leases of premises and motor vehicles, and for other purposes."

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

G.I. AND VETERANS EDUCATION EMPOWERMENT ACT

Mr. TAKANO. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4852) to amend title 38, United States Code, to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to make available to veterans certain additional information about postsecondary educational institutions, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 4852

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 "G.I. and Veterans Education Empowerment Act" or the "GIVE Act".

SEC. 2. INFORMATION PROVIDED BY DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS ABOUT POSTSECONDARY EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS.

(a) ADDITIONAL INFORMATION TO BE PROVIDED.—Subsection (c) of section 3698 of title 38, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1)(C)—

(A) in clause (xi), by striking "and" at the end;

(B) in clause (xii), by striking the period and inserting a semicolon; and

(C) by adding at the end the following new clauses:

"(xiii) whether the institution is listed on the College Navigator website as affiliated with a religion and, if so, which religious denomination;

"(xiv) whether the Secretary of Education or other head of a department or agency of the Federal Government has determined that the institution is a minority serving institution and, if so, which one or more types of minority serving institutions; and

"(xv) whether the institution is gender specific."; and

(2) in paragraph (2), by adding at the end the following new sentence: "To the extent practicable, the Secretary shall ensure that such information is provided in a searchable format."

(b) DEFINITION.—Subsection (f) of such section is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraphs:

"(3) The term 'College Navigator website' has the meaning given that term in section 132 of the Higher Education Act (20 U.S.C. 1015a).

"(4) The term 'minority serving institution' means any of the following:

"(A) A part B institution, as such term is defined in section 322(2) of the Higher Education Act (20 U.S.C. 1061(2)).

“(B) A Hispanic-serving institution, as such term is defined in section 502(a)(5) of such Act (20 U.S.C. 1101a(5)).

“(C) A Tribal College or University, as such term is defined in section 316(b)(3) of such Act (20 U.S.C. 1059c(b)(3)).

“(D) A predominantly Black institution, as such term is defined in section 318(b)(6) of such Act (20 U.S.C. 1059e(b)(6)).

“(E) A Native American-serving, nontribal institution, as such term is defined in section 319(b)(2) of such Act (20 U.S.C. 1059f(b)(6)).

“(F) An Alaska Native-serving institution or Native Hawaiian-serving institution, as such terms are defined in section 317(b) of such Act (20 U.S.C. 1059d(b)).

“(G) An Asian American and Native American Pacific Islander-serving institution, as such term is defined in section 320(b) of such Act (20 U.S.C. 1059g(b)).”

(c) APPLICATION.—The amendments made by this section shall apply with respect to the information provided under section 3698 of title 38, United States Code, beginning on the date that is two years after the date of the enactment of this Act.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from California (Mr. TAKANO) and the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. DAVID P. ROE) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. TAKANO. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and to insert extraneous material on H.R. 4852.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from California?

There was no objection.

Mr. TAKANO. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 4852, the G.I. and Veterans Education Empowerment Act, also known as the GIVE Act.

H.R. 4852, introduced by Representative TORRES, provides veterans with more information about educational institutions prior to their enrollment. Too often veterans find their educational institutions are not good fits for their educational goals and drop out or transfer to other institutions after wasting time and benefits.

After transferring, veterans lose credits from their transferring institutions or simply give up on acquiring a new skill set altogether because an institution does not meet their needs.

Madam Speaker, the GIVE Act addresses an overlooked cause for veterans dropping out or transferring to other institutions: cultural incongruence.

I have observed countless instances where veterans begin their studies only to find out that they are not comfortable on the campus of their educational institution.

Congress created the GI Bill Comparison Tool to provide veterans with more information when they consider where they will pursue a postsecondary education. While the GI Bill Compari-

son Tool provides veterans with data on tuition and costs, accreditation, and cautionary information, there are gaps in the information regarding campus culture.

For example, the GI Bill Comparison Tool does not inform a Catholic veteran, who may be interested in attending a Catholic institution, if an institution is affiliated with the Roman Catholic Church.

Madam Speaker, small pieces of information like that are critical to helping veterans assimilate to life on campus.

Data on campus culture are collected by the Department of Education but are not currently displayed on the GI Bill Comparison Tool website. Now, if enacted, the GIVE Act will require VA to provide prospective student veterans with information on whether an institution is minority serving, gender specific, or has a religious affiliation.

Madam Speaker, this bill will simply require the GI Bill Comparison Tool to display information to help veterans choose the right school the first time.

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This bill will also help veterans choose a campus that is aligned with their values and reduce the number of transfers due to cultural incompatibility.

We owe it to our veterans to give them the most accurate and relevant information that will allow them to efficiently obtain a new skill set so they can reenter the labor force and find meaningful opportunities.

Madam Speaker, I thank Representative TORRES for her work on this important issue.

Madam Speaker, I encourage all of my colleagues to join me in passing H.R. 4852, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. DAVID P. ROE of Tennessee. Madam Speaker, I yield myself as much time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, today, I rise in support of H.R. 4852, the G.I. and Veterans Education Empowerment, or GIVE, Act.

This bill would require the Department of Veterans Affairs to provide additional information on schools listed on the GI Bill Comparison Tool. The tool was first authorized by legislation sponsored by Congressman GUS BILIRAKIS from Florida, the ranking member of the Subcommittee on Economic Opportunity, in 2013 to give service-members and veterans the opportunity to compare information on GI Bill-eligible schools to determine which school is right for them.

The tool is modeled off the Department of Education's College Navigator website, which contains information about tuition and fee costs, policies on transferring credits, and whether an institution is private, nonprofit, or public.

H.R. 4852 would add three additional data points to the tool to ensure that it captures information about whether an

institution is affiliated with a religion, serves a specific group of minorities, or is gender-specific.

As the old saying goes, information is power. I am sure that this additional information will help GI Bill users choose the right school to fit their specific needs and, ultimately, ensure their success in higher education and beyond.

Madam Speaker, I thank Congresswoman NORMA TORRES from California for her work on this legislation, and I urge all of my colleagues to support it.

Madam Speaker, having used the GI Bill myself many, many years ago, it is an invaluable tool for our veterans. We know that the GI Bill was really one of the major things that helped create the America we live in today, as post-World War II veterans left, came out, used the GI Bill, went to college, and really helped create this great country we live in.

Two years ago, we passed a bill that would make the GI Bill forever, so that if you lose your job when you are 45 years old or 50 years old, if you are a veteran, you can go back and use that GI Bill to retrain and continue your education.

This bill helps further clarify and helps veterans use that information better for themselves and their families.

Madam Speaker, I strongly encourage my colleagues to support this bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. TAKANO. Madam Speaker, I again urge all of my colleagues to pass H.R. 4852.

Our veterans deserve to have the most accurate information available to them as they are making their choices about the institutions where they would like to use their GI Bill.

Madam Speaker, I urge all of my colleagues to support this bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. TAKANO) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 4852.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. TAKANO. Madam Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

LEGAL SERVICES FOR HOMELESS VETERANS ACT

Mr. TAKANO. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3749) to amend title 38, United States Code, to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to make grants to entities that provide legal services for homeless veterans and veterans at risk for homelessness, and for other purposes, as amended.