

106TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# H. R. 4268

To amend title 38, United States Code, to increase amounts of educational assistance for veterans under the Montgomery GI Bill and to enhance programs providing educational benefits under that title, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 13, 2000

Mr. STUMP (for himself, Mr. EVANS, Mr. QUINN, Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, Mr. BILIRAKIS, Ms. BROWN of Florida, Mr. SPENCE, Mr. DOYLE, Mr. EVERETT, Ms. CARSON, Mr. BUYER, Mr. REYES, Mr. STEARNS, Mr. SNYDER, Mr. MORAN OF KANSAS, Mr. RODRIGUEZ, Mr. HAYWORTH, Mrs. CHENOWETH-HAGE, Mr. LAHOOD, Mr. HANSEN, Mr. MCKEON, Mr. GIBBONS, Mr. SIMPSON, and Mr. BAKER) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs

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## A BILL

To amend title 38, United States Code, to increase amounts of educational assistance for veterans under the Montgomery GI Bill and to enhance programs providing educational benefits under that title, and for other purposes.

1       *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2       *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS; REF-**  
 2 **ERENCES TO TITLE 38, UNITED STATES CODE.**

3 (a) **SHORT TITLE.**—This Act may be cited as the  
 4 “Veterans and Dependents Millennium Education Act”.

5 (b) **TABLE OF CONTENTS.**—The table of contents of  
 6 this Act is as follows:

- Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents; references to title 38, United States Code.
- Sec. 2. Increase in rates of basic educational assistance under Montgomery GI Bill.
- Sec. 3. Additional opportunity for certain VEAP participants to enroll in basic educational assistance under Montgomery GI Bill.
- Sec. 4. Increase in rates of survivors and dependents educational assistance.
- Sec. 5. Adjusted effective date for award of survivors’ and dependents’ educational assistance.
- Sec. 6. Revision of educational assistance interval payment requirements.
- Sec. 7. Availability of Montgomery GI Bill benefits for payment for licensing or certification tests.
- Sec. 8. Extension of certain temporary authorities.
- Sec. 9. Codification of recurring provisions in annual Department of Veterans Affairs appropriations Acts.
- Sec. 10. Termination of certain reporting requirements.

7 (c) **REFERENCES TO TITLE 38, UNITED STATES**  
 8 **CODE.**—Except as otherwise expressly provided, whenever  
 9 in this Act an amendment or repeal is expressed in terms  
 10 of an amendment to, or repeal of, a section or other provi-  
 11 sion, the reference shall be considered to be made to a  
 12 section or other provision of title 38, United States Code.

13 **SEC. 2. INCREASE IN RATES OF BASIC EDUCATIONAL AS-**  
 14 **SISTANCE UNDER MONTGOMERY GI BILL.**

15 (a) **ACTIVE DUTY EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE.**—(1)  
 16 Section 3015 is amended—

17 (A) in subsection (a)(1), by striking “\$528”  
 18 and inserting “\$720”; and

1 (B) in subsection (b)(1), by striking “\$429”  
2 and inserting “\$585”.

3 (2) The amendments made by paragraph (1) shall  
4 take effect on October 1, 2002, and shall apply with re-  
5 spect to educational assistance allowances paid for months  
6 after September 2002.

7 (3) In the case of an educational assistance allowance  
8 paid for a month after September 2000, and before Octo-  
9 ber 2002 under section 3015 of such title—

10 (A) subsection (a)(1) of such section shall be  
11 applied by substituting “\$600” for “\$528”; and

12 (B) subsection (b)(1) of such section shall be  
13 applied by substituting “\$487” for “\$429”.

14 (b) CPI ADJUSTMENT.—No adjustment in rates of  
15 educational assistance shall be made under section  
16 3015(g) of title 38, United States Code, for fiscal years  
17 2001 and 2003.

18 **SEC. 3. ADDITIONAL OPPORTUNITY FOR CERTAIN VEAP**  
19 **PARTICIPANTS TO ENROLL IN BASIC EDU-**  
20 **CATIONAL ASSISTANCE UNDER MONT-**  
21 **GOMERY GI BILL.**

22 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 3018C(a)(2) is amended  
23 to read as follows:

1           “(2) has continuously served on active duty  
2           since October 9, 1996, (excluding the periods re-  
3           ferred to in section 3202(1)(C) of this title);”.

4           (b) ENROLLMENT PERIOD.—Section 3018C(a)(5) is  
5           amended by striking “during the one-year period begin-  
6           ning on October 9, 1996,” and inserting “during the one-  
7           year period beginning on the date of the enactment of the  
8           Veterans and Dependents Millennium Education Act,”.

9           (c) PAYMENT AMOUNT AND PERIOD.—Section  
10          3018C(b) is amended to read as follows:

11          “(b)(1) Subject to paragraph (2), with respect to an  
12          individual who makes an election under subsection (a) to  
13          become entitled to basic education assistance under this  
14          chapter—

15                 “(A) the basic pay of the individual shall be re-  
16                 duced (in a manner determined by the Secretary  
17                 concerned) until the total amount by which such  
18                 basic pay is reduced is \$2,700; or

19                 “(B) to the extent that basic pay is not so re-  
20                 duced before the individual’s discharge or release  
21                 from active duty as specified in subsection (a)(4),  
22                 the Secretary concerned shall collect from the indi-  
23                 vidual, or reduce the retired or retainer pay of the  
24                 individual by, an amount equal to the difference be-  
25                 tween \$2,700 and the total amount of reductions

1 under subparagraph (A), which shall be paid into  
2 the Treasury of the United States as miscellaneous  
3 receipts.

4 “(2)(A) The Secretary concerned shall provide for an  
5 18-month period, beginning on the date the individual  
6 makes an election under subsection (a), for the individual  
7 to pay that Secretary the amount due under paragraph  
8 (1).

9 “(B) Nothing in subparagraph (A) shall be construed  
10 as modifying the period of eligibility for and entitlement  
11 to basic education assistance under this chapter applicable  
12 under section 3031 of this title.”.

13 (d) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by  
14 this section shall apply with respect to elections made  
15 under section 3018C of title 38, United States Code, dur-  
16 ing the one-year period beginning on the date of the enact-  
17 ment of this Act.

18 **SEC. 4. INCREASE IN RATES OF SURVIVORS AND DEPEND-**  
19 **ENTS EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE.**

20 (a) SURVIVORS AND DEPENDENTS EDUCATIONAL  
21 ASSISTANCE.—(1) Section 3532 is amended—

22 (A) in subsection (a)(1)—

23 (i) by striking “\$485” and inserting  
24 “\$720”;

1           (ii) by striking “\$365” and inserting  
2           “\$540”; and

3           (iii) by striking “\$242” and inserting  
4           “\$360”;

5           (B) in subsection (a)(2), by striking “\$485”  
6           and inserting “\$720”;

7           (C) in subsection (b), by striking “\$485” and  
8           inserting “\$720”; and

9           (D) in subsection (c)(2)—

10           (i) by striking “\$392” and inserting  
11           “\$582”;

12           (ii) by striking “\$294” and inserting  
13           “\$436”; and

14           (iii) by striking “\$196” and inserting  
15           “\$291”.

16           (2) The amendments made by paragraph (1) shall  
17           take effect on October 1, 2002, and shall apply with re-  
18           spect to educational assistance allowances paid for months  
19           after September 2002.

20           (3) In the case of an educational assistance allowance  
21           paid for a month after September 2000 and before Octo-  
22           ber 2002 under section 3532 of such title—

23           (A) subsection (a)(1) of such section shall be  
24           applied by substituting—

25           (i) “\$600” for “\$485”;

1 (ii) “\$450” for “\$365”; and

2 (iii) “\$300” for “\$242”;

3 (B) subsection (a)(2) of such section shall be  
4 applied by substituting “\$600” for “\$485”;

5 (C) subsection (b) of such section shall be ap-  
6 plied by substituting “\$600” for “\$485”; and

7 (D) subsection (c)(2) of such section shall be  
8 applied by substituting—

9 (i) “\$485” for “\$392”;

10 (ii) “\$364” for “\$294”; and

11 (iii) “\$242” for “\$196”.

12 (b) CORRESPONDENCE COURSE.—(1) Section  
13 3534(b) is amended by striking “\$485” and inserting  
14 “\$720”.

15 (2) The amendment made by paragraph (1) shall  
16 take effect on October 1, 2002, and shall apply with re-  
17 spect to educational assistance allowances paid under sec-  
18 tion 3534(b) of title 38, United States Code, for months  
19 after September 2002.

20 (3) In the case of an educational assistance allowance  
21 paid for a month after September 2000 and before Octo-  
22 ber 2002 under section 3534 of such title, subsection (b)  
23 of such section shall be applied by substituting “\$600”  
24 for “\$485”.

1 (c) SPECIAL RESTORATIVE TRAINING.—(1) Section  
2 3542(a) is amended—

3 (A) by striking “\$485” and inserting “\$720”;

4 (B) by striking “\$152” each place it appears  
5 and inserting “\$225”; and

6 (C) by striking “\$16.16” and inserting “\$24”.

7 (2) The amendments made by paragraph (1) shall  
8 take effect on October 1, 2002, and shall apply with re-  
9 spect to educational assistance allowances paid under sec-  
10 tion 3542(a) of title 38, United States Code, for months  
11 after September 2002.

12 (3) In the case of an educational assistance allowance  
13 paid for a month after September 2000 and before Octo-  
14 ber 2002 under section 3542 of such title, subsection (a)  
15 of such section shall be applied by substituting—

16 (A) “\$600” for “\$485”;

17 (B) “\$188” for “\$152”; and

18 (C) “\$20” for “\$16.16”.

19 (d) APPRENTICESHIP TRAINING.—(1) Section  
20 3687(b)(2) is amended—

21 (A) by striking “\$353” and inserting “\$524”;

22 (B) by striking “\$264” and inserting “\$392”;

23 (C) by striking “\$175” and inserting “\$260”;

24 and

25 (D) by striking “\$88” and inserting “\$131”.



1           (2) The amendments made by paragraph (1) shall  
 2 take effect on October 1, 2002, and shall apply with re-  
 3 spect to educational assistance allowances paid under sec-  
 4 tion 3687(b)(2) of title 38, United States Code, for  
 5 months after September 2002.

6           (3) In the case of an educational assistance allowance  
 7 paid for a month after September 2000 and before Octo-  
 8 ber 2002 under section 3687 of such title, subsection  
 9 (b)(2) of such section shall be applied by substituting—

- 10                   (A) “\$437” for “\$353”;  
 11                   (B) “\$327” for “\$264”;  
 12                   (C) “\$216” for “\$175”; and  
 13                   (D) “\$109” for “\$88”.

14           (e) PROVISION FOR ANNUAL ADJUSTMENTS TO  
 15 AMOUNTS OF ASSISTANCE.—

16           (1) CHAPTER 35.—(A) Subchapter VI of chap-  
 17 ter 35 is amended by adding at the end the following  
 18 new section:

19 **“§ 3564. Annual adjustment of amounts of educational**  
 20 **assistance**

21           “With respect to any fiscal year, the Secretary shall  
 22 provide a percentage increase (rounded to the nearest dol-  
 23 lar) in the rates payable under sections 3532, 3534(b),  
 24 and 3542(a) of this title equal to the percentage by  
 25 which—

1           “(1) the Consumer Price Index (all items,  
2           United States city average) for the 12-month period  
3           ending on the June 30 preceding the beginning of  
4           the fiscal year for which the increase is made, ex-  
5           ceeds

6           “(2) such Consumer Price Index for the 12-  
7           month period preceding the 12-month period de-  
8           scribed in paragraph (1).”.

9           (B) The table of sections at the beginning of  
10          chapter 35 is amended by inserting after the item  
11          relating to section 3563 the following new item:

“3564. Annual adjustment of amounts of educational assistance.”.

12           (2) CHAPTER 36.—(A) Section 3687 is amended  
13          by adding at the end the following new subsection:

14          “(d) With respect to any fiscal year, the Secretary  
15          shall provide a percentage increase (rounded to the near-  
16          est dollar) in the rates payable under subsection (b)(2)  
17          equal to the percentage by which—

18           “(1) the Consumer Price Index (all items,  
19           United States city average) for the 12-month period  
20           ending on the June 30 preceding the beginning of  
21           the fiscal year for which the increase is made, ex-  
22           ceeds

1           “(2) such Consumer Price Index for the 12-  
2           month period preceding the 12-month period de-  
3           scribed in paragraph (1).”.

4 **SEC. 5. ADJUSTED EFFECTIVE DATE FOR AWARD OF SUR-**  
5 **VIVORS’ AND DEPENDENTS’ EDUCATIONAL**  
6 **ASSISTANCE.**

7           (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 5113 is amended—

8                 (1) by redesignating subsection (b) as sub-  
9           section (c);

10                (2) in subsection (a), by striking “subsection  
11           (b) of this section” and inserting “subsections (b)  
12           and (c)”; and

13                (3) by inserting after subsection (a) the fol-  
14           lowing new subsection:

15           “(b)(1) When determining the effective date of an  
16           award of survivors’ and dependents’ educational assistance  
17           under chapter 35 of this title for an individual described  
18           in paragraph (2) based on an original claim, the Secretary  
19           shall consider the individual’s application (under section  
20           3513 of this title) as having been filed on the effective  
21           date from which the Secretary, by rating decision, deter-  
22           mines that the individual is entitled to such educational  
23           assistance (such entitlement being based on the total serv-  
24           ice-connected disability evaluated as permanent in nature,  
25           or the service-connected death, of the spouse or parent

1 from whom the individual’s eligibility is derived) if that  
2 date is more than one year before the date such rating  
3 decision is made.

4 “(2) An individual referred to in paragraph (1) is a  
5 person who is eligible for educational assistance under  
6 chapter 35 of this title by reason of subparagraph (A)(i),  
7 (A)(ii), (B), or (D) of section 3501(a)(1) of this title  
8 who—

9 “(A) submits to the Secretary an original appli-  
10 cation under such section 3513 for such educational  
11 assistance within one year of the effective date of  
12 the rating decision referred to in paragraph (1);

13 “(B) claims such educational assistance for an  
14 approved program of education for months preceding  
15 the one-year period ending on the date on which the  
16 individual’s application under such section was re-  
17 ceived by the Secretary; and

18 “(C) would have been entitled to such edu-  
19 cational assistance for such course pursuit for such  
20 months, without regard to this subsection, if the in-  
21 dividual had submitted such an application on the  
22 effective date from which the Secretary determined  
23 the individual was eligible for such educational as-  
24 sistance.”.

1 (b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by  
2 subsection (a) shall apply to applications first made under  
3 section 3513 of title 38, United States Code, that—

4 (1) are received on or after the date of the en-  
5 actment of this Act, or

6 (2) on the date of the enactment of this Act,  
7 are pending (A) with the Secretary of Veterans Af-  
8 fairs or (B) exhaustion of available administrative  
9 and judicial remedies.

10 **SEC. 6. REVISION OF EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE INTERVAL**  
11 **PAYMENT REQUIREMENTS.**

12 (a) IN GENERAL.—Subclause (C) of the third sen-  
13 tence of section 3680(a) is amended to read as follows:

14 “(C) during periods between school terms where  
15 the educational institution certifies the enrollment of  
16 the eligible veteran or eligible person on an indi-  
17 vidual term basis if (i) the period between such  
18 terms does not exceed eight weeks, and (ii) both the  
19 terms preceding and following the period are not  
20 shorter in length than the period.”.

21 (b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by  
22 subsection (a) shall apply with respect to payments of edu-  
23 cational assistance under title 38, United States Code, for  
24 months beginning on or after the date of the enactment  
25 of this Act.

1 **SEC. 7. AVAILABILITY OF MONTGOMERY GI BILL BENEFITS**  
2 **FOR PAYMENT FOR LICENSING OR CERTIFI-**  
3 **CATION TESTS.**

4 (a) **IN GENERAL.**—Section 3452(b) is amended by  
5 adding at the end the following new sentence: “Such term  
6 also includes licensing or certification tests required for  
7 vocations or professions, such tests offered by a licensing  
8 and credentialing organization or entity approved by the  
9 Secretary pursuant to procedures established by the Sec-  
10 retary.”.

11 (b) **AMOUNT OF PAYMENT.**—Section 3032 of such  
12 title is amended by adding at the end the following new  
13 subsection:

14 “(g) The amount of educational assistance payable  
15 under this chapter for a licensing or certification test de-  
16 scribed in section 3452(b) of this title is the fee charged  
17 for the test.”.

18 (c) **REGULATIONS.**—In promulgating regulations to  
19 establish procedures to approve licensing and credentialing  
20 organizations under section 3452(b) of title 38, United  
21 States Code, as added by subsection (a), the Secretary  
22 shall consult with such organizations with demonstrated  
23 expertise in licensing and credentialing that the Secretary  
24 determines appropriate. The Secretary shall make a de-  
25 tailed summary of any consultation under the previous

1 sentence part of the record of the regulation promulgated  
2 under this section.

3 (d) **EFFECTIVE DATE.**—The amendments made by  
4 this section shall take effect on October 1, 2000, and apply  
5 with respect to licensing and certification tests approved  
6 by the Secretary offered on or after such date.

7 **SEC. 8. EXTENSION OF CERTAIN TEMPORARY AUTHORI-**  
8 **TIES.**

9 (a) **ENHANCED LOAN ASSET SALE AUTHORITY.**—  
10 Section 3720(h)(2) is amended by striking “December 31,  
11 2002” and inserting “December 31, 2008”.

12 (b) **HOME LOAN FEES.**—Section 3729(a) is  
13 amended—

14 (1) in paragraph (4), by striking “October 1,  
15 2002” and inserting “October 1, 2008”; and

16 (2) in paragraph (5)(C), by striking “October  
17 1, 2002” and inserting “October 1, 2008”.

18 (c) **PROCEDURES APPLICABLE TO LIQUIDATION**  
19 **SALES ON DEFAULTED HOME LOANS GUARANTEED BY**  
20 **THE DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS.**—Section  
21 3732(c)(11) is amended by striking “October 1, 2002”  
22 and inserting “October 1, 2008”.

23 (d) **INCOME VERIFICATION AUTHORITY.**—Section  
24 5317(g) is amended by striking “September 30, 2002”  
25 and inserting “September 30, 2008”.

1 (e) LIMITATION ON PENSION FOR CERTAIN RECIPI-  
2 ENTS OF MEDICAID-COVERED NURSING HOME CARE.—  
3 Section 5503(f)(7) is amended by striking “September 30,  
4 2002” and inserting “September 30, 2008”.

5 **SEC. 9. CODIFICATION OF RECURRING PROVISIONS IN AN-**  
6 **NUAL DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS**  
7 **APPROPRIATIONS ACTS.**

8 (a) CODIFICATION OF RECURRING PROVISIONS.—(1)  
9 Section 313 is amended by adding at the end the following  
10 new subsections:

11 “(c) COMPENSATION AND PENSION.—Funds appro-  
12 priated for Compensation and Pensions are available for  
13 the following purposes:

14 “(1) The payment of compensation benefits to  
15 or on behalf of veterans as authorized by section 107  
16 and chapters 11, 13, 51, 53, 55, and 61 of this title.

17 “(2) Pension benefits to or on behalf of vet-  
18 erans as authorized by chapters 15, 51, 53, 55, and  
19 61 of this title and section 306 of the Veterans’ and  
20 Survivors’ Pension Improvement Act of 1978.

21 “(3) The payment of benefits as authorized  
22 under chapter 18 of this title.

23 “(4) Burial benefits, emergency and other offi-  
24 cers’ retirement pay, adjusted-service credits and  
25 certificates, payments of premiums due on commer-



1       cial life insurance policies guaranteed under the pro-  
2       visions of article IV of the Soldiers' and Sailors'  
3       Civil Relief Act of 1940 (50 U.S.C. App. 540 et  
4       seq.), and other benefits as authorized by sections  
5       107, 1312, 1977, and 2106 and chapters 23, 51, 53,  
6       55, and 61 of this title and the World War Adjusted  
7       Compensation Act (43 Stat. 122, 123), the Act of  
8       May 24, 1928 (Public Law No. 506 of the 70th  
9       Congress; 45 Stat. 735), and Public Law 87–875  
10      (76 Stat. 1198).

11      “(d) MEDICAL CARE.—Funds appropriated for Med-  
12      ical Care are available for the following purposes:

13           “(1) The maintenance and operation of hos-  
14           pitals, nursing homes, and domiciliary facilities.

15           “(2) Furnishing, as authorized by law, inpatient  
16           and outpatient care and treatment to beneficiaries of  
17           the Department, including care and treatment in fa-  
18           cilities not under the jurisdiction of the Department.

19           “(3) Furnishing recreational facilities, supplies,  
20           and equipment.

21           “(4) Funeral and burial expenses and other ex-  
22           penses incidental to funeral and burial expenses for  
23           beneficiaries receiving care from the Department.

24           “(5) Administrative expenses in support of  
25           planning, design, project management, real property

1 acquisition and disposition, construction, and ren-  
2 ovation of any facility under the jurisdiction or for  
3 the use of the Department.

4 “(6) Oversight, engineering, and architectural  
5 activities not charged to project cost.

6 “(7) Repairing, altering, improving, or pro-  
7 viding facilities in the medical facilities and homes  
8 under the jurisdiction of the Department, not other-  
9 wise provided for, either by contract or by the hire  
10 of temporary employees and purchase of materials.

11 “(8) Uniforms or uniform allowances, as au-  
12 thorized by sections 5901 and 5902 of title 5.

13 “(9) Aid to State homes, as authorized by sec-  
14 tion 1741 of this title.

15 “(10) Administrative and legal expenses of the  
16 Department for collecting and recovering amounts  
17 owed the Department as authorized under chapter  
18 17 of this title and Public Law 87–693, popularly  
19 known as the Federal Medical Care Recovery Act  
20 (42 U.S.C. 2651 et seq.).

21 “(e) MEDICAL ADMINISTRATION AND MISCELLA-  
22 NEOUS OPERATING EXPENSES.—Funds appropriated for  
23 Medical Administration and Miscellaneous Operating Ex-  
24 penses are available for the following purposes:

1           “(1) The administration of medical, hospital,  
2           nursing home, domiciliary, construction, supply, and  
3           research activities authorized by law.

4           “(2) Administrative expenses in support of  
5           planning, design, project management, architectural  
6           work, engineering, real property acquisition and dis-  
7           position, construction, and renovation of any facility  
8           under the jurisdiction or for the use of the Depart-  
9           ment, including site acquisition.

10           “(3) Engineering and architectural activities  
11           not charged to project costs.

12           “(4) Research and development in building con-  
13           struction technology.

14           “(f) GENERAL OPERATING EXPENSES.—Funds ap-  
15           propriated for General Operating Expenses are available  
16           for the following purposes:

17           “(1) Uniforms or allowances therefor.

18           “(2) Hire of passenger motor vehicles.

19           “(3) Reimbursement of the General Services  
20           Administration for security guard services.

21           “(4) Reimbursement of the Department of De-  
22           fense for the cost of overseas employee mail.

23           “(5) Administration of the Service Members  
24           Occupational Conversion and Training Act of 1992  
25           (10 U.S.C. 1143 note).

1       “(g) CONSTRUCTION.—Funds appropriated for Con-  
2 struction, Major Projects, and for Construction, Minor  
3 Projects, are available, with respect to a project, for the  
4 following purposes:

5           “(1) Planning.

6           “(2) Architectural and engineering services.

7           “(3) Maintenance or guarantee period services  
8 costs associated with equipment guarantees provided  
9 under the project.

10          “(4) Services of claims analysts.

11          “(5) Offsite utility and storm drainage system  
12 construction costs.

13          “(6) Site acquisition.

14       “(h) CONSTRUCTION, MINOR PROJECTS.—In addi-  
15 tion to the purposes specified in subsection (g), funds ap-  
16 propriated for Construction, Minor Projects, are available  
17 for—

18           “(1) repairs to any of the nonmedical facilities  
19 under the jurisdiction or for the use of the Depart-  
20 ment which are necessary because of loss or damage  
21 caused by a natural disaster or catastrophe; and

22           “(2) temporary measures necessary to prevent  
23 or to minimize further loss by such causes.”.

24       (2)(A) Chapter 1 is amended by adding at the end  
25 the following new section:

1 **“§ 116. Definition of cost of direct and guaranteed**  
2 **loans**

3 “For the purpose of any provision of law appro-  
4 priating funds to the Department for the cost of direct  
5 or guaranteed loans, the cost of any such loan, including  
6 the cost of modifying any such loan, shall be as defined  
7 in section 502 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974  
8 (2 U.S.C. 661a).”.

9 (B) The table of sections at the beginning of such  
10 chapter is amended by adding at the end the following  
11 new item:

“116. Definition of cost of direct and guaranteed loans.”.

12 (b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—Subsections (c) through (h)  
13 of section 313 of title 38, United States Code, as added  
14 by subsection (a)(1), and section 116 of such title, as  
15 added by subsection (a)(2), shall take effect with respect  
16 to funds appropriated for fiscal year 2002.

17 **SEC. 10. TERMINATION OF CERTAIN REPORTING REQUIRE-**  
18 **MENTS.**

19 (a) INAPPLICABILITY OF PRIOR REPORTS TERMI-  
20 NATION PROVISION TO CERTAIN REPORTS OF THE DE-  
21 PARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS.—Section 3003(a)(1)  
22 of the Federal Reports Elimination and Sunset Act of  
23 1995 (31 U.S.C. 1113 note) does not apply to any report  
24 required to be submitted under any of the following sec-

1 tions of title 38, United States Code: sections 503(c), 529,  
2 541(c), 542(c), 3036, and 7312(d).

3 (b) REPEAL OF REPORTING REQUIREMENTS TERMINATED BY PRIOR LAW.—Sections 8111A(f) and 8201(h)  
4 are repealed.

6 (c) SUNSET OF CERTAIN REPORTING REQUIREMENTS.—

8 (1) ANNUAL REPORT ON EQUITABLE RELIEF  
9 CASES.—Section 503(c) is amended by adding at the  
10 end the following new sentence: “No report shall be  
11 required under this subsection after December 31,  
12 2004.”.

13 (2) BIENNIAL REPORT OF ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON FORMER PRISONERS OF WAR.—Section  
14 541(c)(1) is amended by inserting “through 2003”  
15 after “each odd-numbered year”.

17 (3) BIENNIAL REPORT OF ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON WOMEN VETERANS.—Section 542(c)(1)  
18 is amended by inserting “through 2003” after “each  
19 odd-numbered year”.

21 (4) BIENNIAL REPORTS ON MONTGOMERY GIBILL.—Subsection (d) of section 3036 is amended to  
22 read as follows:

24 “(d) No report shall be required under this section  
25 after January 1, 2005.”.

1           (5) ANNUAL REPORT OF SPECIAL MEDICAL AD-  
2           VISORY GROUP.—Section 7312(d) is amended by  
3           adding at the end the following new sentence: “No  
4           report shall be required under this subsection after  
5           December 31, 2004.”.

6           (d) COST INFORMATION TO BE PROVIDED WITH  
7           EACH REPORT REQUIRED BY CONGRESS.—

8           (1) IN GENERAL.—(A) Chapter 1 is amended  
9           by adding at the end the following new section:

10       **“§ 117. Reports to Congress: cost information**

11       “Whenever the Secretary submits to Congress, or any  
12       committee of Congress, a report that is required by law  
13       or by a joint explanatory statement of a committee of con-  
14       ference of the Congress, the Secretary shall include with  
15       the report—

16           “(1) a statement of the cost of preparing the  
17       report; and

18           “(2) a brief explanation of the methodology  
19       used in preparing that cost statement.”.

20           (B) The table of sections at the beginning of  
21       such chapter is amended by adding at the end the  
22       following new item:

“117. Reports to Congress: cost information.”.

23           (2) EFFECTIVE DATE.—Section 117 of title 38,  
24       United States Code, as added by paragraph (1) of  
25       this subsection, shall apply with respect to any re-

1 port submitted by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs  
2 after the end of the 90-day period beginning on the  
3 date of the enactment of this Act.

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