

107TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 320

To amend title 38, United States Code, to improve benefits under the Montgomery GI Bill by establishing an enhanced educational assistance program, by increasing the amount of basic educational assistance, by repealing the requirement for reduction in pay for participation in the program, by authorizing the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to make accelerated payments of basic educational assistance, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 31, 2001

Mr. EVANS (for himself, Mr. DINGELL, Mr. FILNER, Mr. SHOWS, Ms. BROWN of Florida, Mr. REYES, Mr. RODRIGUEZ, Ms. BERKLEY, Ms. CARSON of Indiana, Mr. DOYLE, Mr. GUTIERREZ, Mr. UDALL of New Mexico, Mr. BISHOP, Mr. BALDACCI, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. BORSKI, Mr. COYNE, Mr. CUMMINGS, Mr. FARR of California, Mr. FROST, Mr. HINCHEY, Mr. BARCIA, Mr. CAPUANO, Mrs. CAPPS, Mr. CRAMER, Ms. DELAURO, Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA, Mr. HALL of Texas, Mr. TAYLOR of Mississippi, Mr. BROWN of Ohio, Mr. STRICKLAND, Mr. TANNER, Mr. WU, Mr. WATT of North Carolina, Mr. WYNN, Mr. DICKS, Mr. COSTELLO, Mr. GORDON, Mr. HOLDEN, Ms. HOOLEY of Oregon, Ms. KAPTUR, Mr. KILDEE, Mr. LIPINSKI, Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York, Mr. MASCARA, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. MURTHA, Mr. OLVER, Mr. RUSH, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. LUCAS of Kentucky, Ms. MILLENDER-MCDONALD, Mr. MORAN of Virginia, Mr. OBERSTAR, Mr. POMEROY, Mr. SANDLIN, Ms. WOOLSEY, Mrs. MEEK of Florida, Mr. WHITFIELD, Mr. ANDREWS, Mr. EDWARDS, Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania, Ms. SLAUGHTER, Mr. CLEMENT, Mr. HINOJOSA, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. GREEN of Texas, Mr. LAMPSON, Mr. PASCARELL, Mr. SMITH of Washington, Mr. SKELTON, Mr. KUCINICH, Mr. TOWNS, Mr. STENHOLM, Mr. KENNEDY of Rhode Island, Mrs. MINK of Hawaii, Mr. BLAGOJEVICH, Mr. BONIOR, Mr. SAWYER, Mr. PALLONE, Mr. WEINER, Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. MATSUI, Mrs. CHRISTENSEN, Mr. FRANK, Ms. NORTON, Mrs. THURMAN, Ms. MCCARTHY of Missouri, Mr. BOSWELL, Mrs. JONES of Ohio, Mr. LATOURETTE, Mr. ACKERMAN, Mr. MCNULTY, Mr. SNYDER, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Mr. CONYERS, Mr. CONDIT, Mr. MOAKLEY, Mr. UNDERWOOD, Mr. GEPHARDT, Mr. PETERSON of Minnesota, and Mr. MALONEY of Connecticut) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs

A BILL

To amend title 38, United States Code, to improve benefits under the Montgomery GI Bill by establishing an enhanced educational assistance program, by increasing the amount of basic educational assistance, by repealing the requirement for reduction in pay for participation in the program, by authorizing the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to make accelerated payments of basic educational assistance, 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,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Montgomery GI Bill
 5 Improvements Act of 2001”.

6 **SEC. 2. ENHANCED BENEFITS UNDER MONTGOMERY GI**
 7 **BILL FOR FOUR YEARS OF ACTIVE-DUTY**
 8 **SERVICE.**

9 (a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 30 of title 38, United
 10 States Code, is amended by adding at the end the fol-
 11 lowing new subchapter:

12 “SUBCHAPTER V—ENHANCED EDU-
 13 CATIONAL ASSISTANCE

14 **“§ 3041. Enhanced educational assistance entitlement**

15 “(a) ENTITLEMENT.—An eligible individual is enti-
 16 tled to enhanced educational assistance under this sub-
 17 chapter.

1 “(b) ELIGIBLE INDIVIDUAL DEFINED.—For pur-
2 poses of this subchapter, the term ‘eligible individual’
3 means an individual who meets the service requirement
4 described in subsection (c) and whose status after comple-
5 tion of such service is described in section 3011(a)(3) of
6 this title. Such term does not include an individual de-
7 scribed in paragraph (1) or (2) of section 3011(c) of this
8 title.

9 “(c) SERVICE REQUIREMENT.—(1) The service re-
10 quirement referred to in subsection (b) is as follows:

11 “(A) After September 30, 2001, the
12 individual—

13 “(i) first enters on active duty;

14 “(ii) reenlists or extends an enlistment on
15 active duty as a member of the Armed Forces;

16 or

17 “(iii) in the case of an officer, continues to
18 serve on active duty after that date.

19 “(B) From the date of such entry, reenlistment,
20 extension, or continuation, as the case may be, the
21 individual—

22 “(i) serves a continuous period of active
23 duty of at least four years in the Armed Forces;

24 or

1 “(ii) serves on active duty in the Armed
2 Forces and is discharged or released from ac-
3 tive duty—

4 “(I) as provided in subclause (I) of
5 section 3011(a)(1)(A)(ii) of this title;

6 “(II) for the convenience of the Gov-
7 ernment, after having completed not less
8 than 42 months of continuous active duty;
9 or

10 “(III) as provided in subclause (III)
11 of section 3011(a)(1)(A)(ii) of this title.

12 “(2) In determining service under paragraph (1), the
13 following rules apply:

14 “(A) Any period of service described in para-
15 graph (2) or (3) of section 3011(d) of this title that
16 applies to an eligible individual under this section
17 shall not be considered a part of the individual’s pe-
18 riod of active duty.

19 “(B) A member described in paragraph (2) of
20 section 3011(f) of this title who serves the periods
21 of active duty referred to in such paragraph shall be
22 deemed to have served a continuous period of active
23 duty the length of which is the aggregate length of
24 the periods of active duty referred to in such para-
25 graph.

1 “(C) Subsections (g) and (h) of section 3011 of
2 this title apply with respect to an eligible individual
3 under this section in the same manner as they apply
4 to an individual under section 3011 of this title.

5 “(d) ELECTION OF BASIC EDUCATIONAL ASSIST-
6 ANCE.—(1) An eligible individual entitled to enhanced
7 educational assistance under this subchapter may elect (in
8 a form and manner prescribed by the Secretary) to receive
9 basic educational assistance under subchapter II in lieu
10 of such enhanced educational assistance for an enrollment
11 period. Such an election shall be made by not later than
12 30 days before the beginning of the enrollment period.

13 “(2) An eligible individual may revoke an election
14 made pursuant to paragraph (1), but in no case may such
15 revocation be made later than 30 days before the begin-
16 ning of the enrollment period.

17 **“§ 3042. Duration of enhanced educational assistance**

18 “(a) IN GENERAL.—Subject to section 3695 of this
19 title and except as provided in subsection (b), each indi-
20 vidual entitled to enhanced educational assistance under
21 section 3041 of this title is entitled to a monthly enhanced
22 educational assistance allowance under this subchapter for
23 a period or periods not to exceed a total of 36 months
24 (or the equivalent thereof in part-time enhanced edu-
25 cational assistance).

1 “(b) SPECIAL RULE FOR CERTAIN EARLY SEPARA-
2 TIONS.—Subject to section 3695 of this title, in the case
3 of an individual described in subclause (I) or (III) of sec-
4 tion 3041(c)(1)(B)(ii) of this title who does not serve a
5 continuous period of active duty of at least four years in
6 the Armed Forces (as described in section
7 3041(c)(1)(B)(i) of this title), the individual is entitled to
8 one month of enhanced educational assistance benefits
9 under this subchapter (not to exceed a total of 36 months
10 (or the equivalent thereof in part-time enhanced edu-
11 cational assistance)) for each month of continuous active
12 duty served by the individual beginning with the date on
13 which the entry on active duty, reenlistment, enlistment
14 extension, or continuation applicable to that individual
15 under section 3041(c)(1)(A) of this title begins.

16 **“§ 3043. Payment of educational expenses**

17 “(a) IN GENERAL.—(1) Subject to paragraph (2), the
18 Secretary shall pay to the educational institution providing
19 a course under an approved program of education to an
20 eligible individual under this subchapter who is enrolled
21 in the course the actual cost of tuition and fees otherwise
22 payable by the individual.

23 “(2) Such cost may not exceed the amount charged
24 to similarly circumstanced nonveterans.

1 “(b) STIPEND; COSTS OF BOOKS AND SUPPLIES.—
2 The Secretary shall pay to each eligible individual under
3 this subchapter who is pursuing an approved program of
4 education—

5 “(1) a stipend as provided in section 3044 of
6 this title; and

7 “(2) in accordance with regulations prescribed
8 by the Secretary, an amount equal to the average
9 cost of books and supplies payable by individuals
10 pursuing courses of education at educational institu-
11 tions.

12 “(c) EXCLUSION FROM INCOME FOR ELIGIBILITY
13 DETERMINATIONS FOR FEDERAL EDUCATIONAL
14 LOANS.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law,
15 amounts payable by the Secretary under this subchapter
16 with respect to an eligible individual shall not be consid-
17 ered as income for purposes of determining eligibility of
18 such individual for education grants or loans under any
19 other provision of Federal law.

20 **“§ 3044. Amount of stipend**

21 “(a) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in section
22 3042 of this title, the stipend under this subchapter shall
23 be paid at a monthly rate (as that rate may be increased
24 pursuant to subsection (b)) as follows:

1 “(1) At the monthly rate of \$800 for an ap-
2 proved program of education pursued on a full-time
3 basis.

4 “(2) At the monthly rate of \$600 for an ap-
5 proved program of education pursued on a three-
6 quarter-time basis.

7 “(3) At the monthly rate of \$400 for an ap-
8 proved program of education pursued on a half-time
9 basis.

10 “(4) At the monthly rate of \$200 for an ap-
11 proved program of education pursued on less than a
12 half-time basis.

13 “(b) ADJUSTMENT FOR INFLATION.—With respect to
14 any fiscal year beginning after fiscal year 2002, the Sec-
15 retary shall increase the rate paid under subsection (a)
16 for the previous fiscal year by the percentage applicable
17 under section 3015(h) of this title.

18 **“§ 3045. Tutorial assistance**

19 “An individual entitled to an enhanced educational
20 assistance allowance under this subchapter shall be enti-
21 tled to benefits provided an individual under section 3019
22 of this title, subject to the conditions provided in such sec-
23 tion.”.

1 (b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—(1) Section 3002
2 of such title is amended by inserting at the end the fol-
3 lowing new paragraph:

4 “(9) The term ‘enhanced educational assistance’
5 means educational assistance provided under subchapter
6 V.”.

7 (2) Section 3011 of such title is amended in sub-
8 section (f)(1) and (g) by striking “chapter” each place it
9 appears and inserting “subchapter”.

10 (3) Section 3018A(a) of such title is amended by
11 striking “education assistance under this chapter” and in-
12 serting “educational assistance under this subchapter”.

13 (4) Section 3018B of such title is amended by strik-
14 ing “education assistance under this chapter” each place
15 it appears and inserting “educational assistance under
16 this subchapter”.

17 (5) Section 3018C of such title is amended by strik-
18 ing “educational assistance under this chapter” each place
19 it appears and inserting “educational assistance under
20 this subchapter”.

21 (6) Section 3019 of such title is amended by striking
22 “chapter” each place it appears and inserting “sub-
23 chapter”.

24 (7) Section 3031 of such title is amended—

1 (A) in subsection (f), by inserting “or 3042 of
2 this title” after “section 3013” each place it ap-
3 pears; and

4 (B) in subsection (g), by inserting “or
5 3031(e)(1)(B)(ii)(III)” after “section
6 3011(a)(1)(A)(ii)(III)”.

7 (8) Section 3032(e)(3) of such title is amended by
8 inserting “, or section 3044(a)(1)” after “section 3015”.

9 (c) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections
10 at the beginning of chapter 30 of title 38, United States
11 Code, is amended by adding at the end the following new
12 items:

“SUBCHAPTER V—ENHANCED EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE

“3041. Enhanced educational assistance entitlement.

“3042. Duration of enhanced educational assistance.

“3043. Payment of educational expenses.

“3044. Amount of stipend.

“3045. Tutorial assistance.”.

13 **SEC. 3. INCREASE IN RATES OF BASIC EDUCATIONAL AS-**
14 **SISTANCE UNDER MONTGOMERY GI BILL.**

15 (a) ACTIVE DUTY EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE.—Sec-
16 tion 3015 of title 38, United States Code, is amended—

17 (1) in subsection (a)(1), by striking “\$650” and
18 inserting “\$900”; and

19 (2) in subsection (b)(1), by striking “\$528”
20 and inserting “\$730”.

21 (b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by
22 subsection (a) shall take effect on October 1, 2001, and

1 shall apply with respect to educational assistance allow-
2 ances paid for months after September 2001.

3 **SEC. 4. REPEAL OF PAY REDUCTION, ELECTION OF BENE-**
4 **FITS, AND HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION RE-**
5 **QUIREMENT FOR PARTICIPATION IN BASIC**
6 **EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE UNDER MONT-**
7 **GOMERY GI BILL.**

8 (a) REPEAL OF PAY REDUCTION AND ELECTION OF
9 BENEFITS.—

10 (1) ACTIVE DUTY PROGRAM.—(A) Section 3011
11 of title 38, United States Code, is amended—

12 (i) by striking subsection (b); and

13 (ii) in subsection (c), by striking paragraph
14 (1) and redesignating paragraphs (2) and (3)
15 as paragraphs (1) and (2), respectively.

16 (B) Section 3012 of such title is amended—

17 (i) by striking subsection (c); and

18 (ii) in subsection (d), by striking para-
19 graph (1) and redesignating paragraphs (2) and
20 (3) as paragraphs (1) and (2), respectively.

21 (2) OPPORTUNITIES TO WITHDRAW ELECTION
22 NOT TO ENROLL.—(A) Section 3016(a)(1) of such
23 title is amended by striking “, and does not make
24 an election under section 3011(c)(1) or section
25 3012(d)(1)”.

1 (B) Sections 3018A and 3018B of such title
2 are each amended by adding at the end the following
3 new subsection:

4 “(e) Notwithstanding subsection (b), no reduction in
5 the pay of an individual under this section shall be made
6 for months beginning after September 30, 2001. Any obli-
7 gation of such individual under subsection (b), as of Sep-
8 tember 30, 2001, shall be deemed to be fully satisfied as
9 of such date.”.

10 (C)(i) Section 3018C(e) of such title is
11 amended—

12 (I) by striking paragraphs (3) and (4); and

13 (II) by redesignating paragraph (5) as
14 paragraph (3).

15 (ii) Section 3018C of such title is amended by
16 adding at the end the following new subsection:

17 “(f) Notwithstanding subsection (b), no reduction in
18 the pay of an individual under this section shall be made
19 for months beginning after the date of the enactment of
20 the Montgomery GI Bill Improvements Act of 2001. Any
21 obligation of such individual under subsection (b), as of
22 such date, shall be deemed to be fully satisfied as of such
23 date.”.

24 (3) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made
25 by this subsection shall take effect on October 1,

1 2001, and apply to individuals whose initial obli-
2 gated period of active duty under section 3011 or
3 3012 of title 38, United States Code, as the case
4 may be, begins on or after such date.

5 (4) TERMINATION OF PAY REDUCTIONS IN
6 PROGRESS.—Any reduction in the basic pay of an
7 individual referred to in subsection (b) of section
8 3011 of title 38, United States Code, by reason of
9 such subsection, or of any individual referred to in
10 subsection (c) of section 3012 of such title by reason
11 of such subsection, shall cease commencing with
12 months beginning after September 30, 2001, and
13 any obligation of such individual under such sub-
14 sections, as the case may be, as of September 30,
15 2001, shall be deemed to be fully satisfied as of such
16 date.

17 (b) REPEAL OF HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION RE-
18 QUIREMENT.—

19 (1) ACTIVE DUTY.—(A) Section 3011(a) of title
20 38, United States Code, is amended—

21 (i) by striking paragraph (2); and

22 (ii) by redesignating paragraph (3) as
23 paragraph (2).

24 (B) Section 3012(a) of such title is amended—

25 (i) by striking paragraph (2); and

1 (ii) by redesignating paragraph (3) as
2 paragraph (2).

3 (2) OPPORTUNITIES TO WITHDRAW ELECTION
4 NOT TO ENROLL.—(A) Section 3018(b) of such title
5 is amended—

6 (i) by striking paragraph (4);

7 (ii) by inserting “and” at the end of para-
8 graph (3)(C); and

9 (iii) by redesignating paragraph (5) as
10 paragraph (4).

11 (B)(i) Section 3018A(a) of such title is
12 amended—

13 (I) by striking paragraph (2);

14 (II) by redesignating paragraphs (3), (4),
15 and (5) as paragraphs (2), (3), and (4), respec-
16 tively; and

17 (III) by striking “paragraph (3)” in para-
18 graphs (3) and (4), as so redesignated, and in-
19 serting “paragraph (2)”.

20 (ii) Section 3018A(c) of such title is amended
21 by striking “subsection (a)(3) of this section” and
22 inserting “subsection (a)(2)”.

23 (iii) Section 3018A(d)(1) of such title is amend-
24 ed by striking “subsection (a)(4) of this subsection”
25 and inserting “subsection (a)(3)”.

1 (C)(i) Section 3018B(a)(1) of such title is
2 amended—

3 (I) by striking subparagraph (B);

4 (II) by redesignating subparagraphs (C),
5 (D), and (E) as subparagraphs (B), (C), and
6 (D), respectively; and

7 (III) by striking “subparagraph (C)” in
8 subparagraphs (C) and (D), as so redesignated,
9 and inserting “subparagraph (B)”.

10 (D)(i) Section 3018B(a)(2) of such title is
11 amended—

12 (I) by striking subparagraph (B);

13 (II) by redesignating subparagraphs (C),
14 (D), and (E) as subparagraphs (B), (C), and
15 (D), respectively;

16 (III) by striking “paragraph (1)(C) of this
17 subsection” in subparagraph (B), as so redesignated,
18 and inserting “paragraph (1)(B)”;

19 (IV) by striking “subparagraph (C)” in
20 subparagraphs (C) and (D), as so redesignated,
21 and inserting “subparagraph (B)”.

22 (ii) Section 3018B(c) of such title is amended
23 by striking “subsection (a)(1)(C) or (a)(2)(C) of this
24 section” and inserting “subsection (a)(1)(B) or
25 (a)(2)(B)”.

1 (iii) Section 3018B(d)(1) of such title is amend-
2 ed by striking “subsection (a)(1)(D) or (a)(2)(D) of
3 this section” and inserting “subsection (a)(1)(C) or
4 (a)(2)(C)”.

5 (E)(i) Section 3018C(a) of such title is
6 amended—

7 (I) by striking paragraph (3);

8 (II) by redesignating paragraphs (4) and
9 (5) as paragraphs (3) and (4), respectively; and

10 (III) by striking “paragraph (5)” in para-
11 graph (3), as so redesignated, and inserting
12 “paragraph (4)”.

13 (ii) Section 3018C(b)(2) of such title is amend-
14 ed by striking “as specified in subsection (a)(4)”
15 and inserting “as specified in subsection (a)(3)”.

16 (iii) Section 3018C(c)(1) of such title is amend-
17 ed by striking “election described in subsection
18 (a)(5)” and inserting “election described in sub-
19 section (a)(4)”.

20 (iv) Section 3018C(e)(1) of such title is amend-
21 ed by striking “elections made under subsection
22 (a)(5)” and inserting “elections made under sub-
23 section (a)(4)”.

24 (v) Section 3018C(e)(2) of such title is
25 amended—

1 (I) by striking subparagraph (C); and

2 (II) by redesignating subparagraph (D) as
3 subparagraph (C).

4 (3) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made
5 by this subsection shall take effect on the date of the
6 enactment of this Act and apply with respect to indi-
7 viduals applying for basic educational assistance
8 under chapter 30 of title 38, United States Code, on
9 or after such date.

10 (c) EDUCATION OUTREACH SERVICES TO MEMBERS
11 OF THE ARMED FORCES.—

12 (1) IN GENERAL.—Section 3034(e)(1) of title
13 38, United States Code, is amended to read as fol-
14 lows:

15 “(e)(1) Not later than one year after an individual
16 initially enters on active duty as a member of the Armed
17 Forces, and at such additional times as the Secretary de-
18 termines appropriate, the Secretary shall furnish the indi-
19 vidual the information described in paragraph (2).”.

20 (2) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made
21 by paragraph (1) shall take effect on October 1,
22 2001, and apply to individuals whose initial obli-
23 gated period of active duty under section 3011 or
24 3012 of title 38, United States Code, as the case
25 may be, begins on or after such date.

1 **SEC. 5. AUTHORITY OF SECRETARY TO MAKE ACCELER-**
2 **ATED PAYMENTS OF BASIC EDUCATIONAL AS-**
3 **SISTANCE UNDER MONTGOMERY GI BILL.**

4 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 3014 of title 38 is amend-
5 ed by adding at the end the following new subsection:

6 “(c) ACCELERATED PAYMENT.—(1)(A) Notwith-
7 standing any other provision of this chapter and subject
8 to subparagraph (B), an individual entitled to basic edu-
9 cational assistance under this subchapter may elect to re-
10 ceive an accelerated payment of the basic educational as-
11 sistance allowance.

12 “(B) The Secretary may not make an accelerated
13 payment for a course to an individual who has received
14 an advance payment under section 3680(d) of this title
15 for the same enrollment period.

16 “(2)(A) Pursuant to an election under paragraph (1),
17 the Secretary shall make an accelerated payment to an
18 individual for a course in a lump-sum amount equal to
19 the lesser of—

20 “(i) the amount of the educational assistance
21 allowance for the month, or fraction thereof, in
22 which the course begins plus the educational assist-
23 ance allowance for each of the succeeding four
24 months; or

25 “(ii)(I) in the case of a course offered on a
26 quarter, semester, or term basis, the amount of ag-

1 aggregate monthly educational assistance allowance
2 otherwise payable under this subchapter for the
3 course for the entire quarter, semester, or term; or

4 “(II) in the case of a course that is not offered
5 on a quarter, semester, or term basis, the amount of
6 aggregate monthly educational assistance allowance
7 otherwise payable under this subchapter for the en-
8 tire course.

9 “(B) In the case of an adjustment under section
10 3015(h) of this title in the monthly rate of basic edu-
11 cational assistance that occurs during a period for which
12 an accelerated payment is made under this subsection, the
13 Secretary shall pay—

14 “(i) on an accelerated basis the amount of the
15 allowance otherwise payable under this subchapter
16 for the period without regard to the adjustment
17 under that section; and

18 “(ii) on the date of the adjustment any addi-
19 tional amount of the allowance that is payable for
20 the period as a result of the adjustment.

21 “(3) Pursuant to an election under paragraph (1),
22 the Secretary shall pay the accelerated payment to the in-
23 dividual for a course by not later than the date on which
24 the course begins.

1 “(4) For each accelerated payment made to an indi-
 2 vidual, the individual’s entitlement under this subchapter
 3 shall be charged at the same rate at which the entitlement
 4 would be charged if the individual had received a monthly
 5 educational assistance allowance for the period of edu-
 6 cational pursuit covered by the accelerated payment.

7 “(5) The Secretary shall prescribe regulations to
 8 carry out this subsection, and include in such regulations
 9 the requirements, conditions, and methods for the request,
 10 issuance, delivery, certification of receipt and use, and re-
 11 covery of overpayment of an accelerated payment.”.

12 (b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by
 13 subsection (a) shall take effect on March 1, 2002, and
 14 apply with respect to courses of education beginning on
 15 or after such date.

16 **SEC. 6. AVAILABILITY OF MONTGOMERY GI BILL BENEFITS**
 17 **FOR TRAINING FOR TECHNOLOGICAL OCCU-**
 18 **PATIONS OFFERED BY ENTITIES OTHER**
 19 **THAN EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS.**

20 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 3452(c) of title 38,
 21 United States Code, is amended to read as follows:

22 “(c) The term ‘educational institution’ means—

23 “(1) any public or private elementary school,
 24 secondary school, vocational school, correspondence
 25 school, business school, junior college, teachers’ col-

1 lege, college, normal school, professional school, uni-
2 versity, or scientific or technical institution, or other
3 institution furnishing education for adults;

4 “(2) any entity that provides training required
5 for completion of any State-approved alternative
6 teacher certification program (as determined by the
7 Secretary); or

8 “(3) any entity that provides, either directly or
9 under an agreement with another entity, training re-
10 quired for certification in a vocation or profession in
11 a technological occupation (as defined by the Sec-
12 retary).”.

13 (b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by
14 subsection (a) shall take effect on October 1, 2001, and
15 applies with respect to training courses, approved by the
16 Secretary, for certification for technological occupations
17 beginning on or after such date.

○