

113TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 1211

To amend title 38, United States Code, to prohibit the use of the phrases GI Bill and Post-9/11 GI Bill to give a false impression of approval or endorsement by the Department of Veterans Affairs.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JUNE 20, 2013

Mrs. BOXER (for herself, Mr. HARKIN, Mr. FRANKEN, Ms. MIKULSKI, Mrs. HAGAN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. CARPER, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. BEGICH, and Mr. SCHATZ) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs

A BILL

To amend title 38, United States Code, to prohibit the use of the phrases GI Bill and Post-9/11 GI Bill to give a false impression of approval or endorsement by the Department of Veterans Affairs.

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. PROHIBITIONS RELATING TO REFERENCES TO**
4 **GI BILL AND POST-9/11 GI BILL.**

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

1 **“§ 3697B. Prohibition relating to references to GI Bill**
2 **and Post-9/11 GI Bill**

3 “(a) PROHIBITION.—(1) No person may, except with
4 the written permission of the Secretary, use the words and
5 phrases covered by this subsection in connection with any
6 promotion, goods, services, or commercial activity in a
7 manner that reasonably and falsely suggests that such use
8 is approved, endorsed, or authorized by the Department
9 or any component thereof.

10 “(2) For purposes of this subsection, the words and
11 phrases covered by this subsection are as follows:

12 “(A) ‘GI Bill’.

13 “(B) ‘Post-9/11 GI Bill’.

14 “(3) A determination that a use of one or more words
15 and phrases covered by this subsection in connection with
16 a promotion, goods, services, or commercial activity is not
17 a violation of this subsection may not be made solely on
18 the ground that such promotion, goods, services, or com-
19 mercial activity includes a disclaimer of affiliation with the
20 Department or any component thereof.

21 “(b) ENFORCEMENT BY ATTORNEY GENERAL.—(1)
22 When any person is engaged or is about to engage in an
23 act or practice which constitutes or will constitute conduct
24 prohibited by subsection (a), the Attorney General may
25 initiate a civil proceeding in a district court of the United
26 States to enjoin such act or practice.

1 “(2) Such court may, at any time before final deter-
2 mination, enter such restraining orders or prohibitions, or
3 take such other action as is warranted, to prevent injury
4 to the United States or to any person or class of persons
5 for whose protection the action is brought.”.

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

“3697B. Prohibition relating to references to GI Bill and Post-9/11 GI Bill.”.

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