To amend title 38, United States Code, to authorize the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to provide additional educational assistance under the Post-9/11 Educational Assistance Program of the Department of Veterans Affairs to certain eligible individuals.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

February 5, 2015

Mr. McKinley (for himself and Ms. Titus) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Veterans’ Affairs

A BILL

To amend title 38, United States Code, to authorize the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to provide additional educational assistance under the Post-9/11 Educational Assistance Program of the Department of Veterans Affairs to certain eligible individuals.

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 “GI Bill STEM Extension Act of 2015”.

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SEC. 2. ADDITIONAL EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE UNDER POST-9/11 EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM OF DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subchapter II of chapter 33 of title 38, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following new section:

“§ 3320. Additional benefits

“(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may provide to an eligible individual additional educational assistance under this section.

“(b) AMOUNT OF ASSISTANCE.—The Secretary shall pay to each individual who receives educational assistance under this section who is pursuing a program of education the amount payable under section 3313 of this title for such program of education for a period of not more than nine months.

“(c) ELIGIBILITY.—An eligible individual is an individual—

“(1) who is or was entitled to educational assistance under section 3311 of this title;

“(2) who has used all of the educational assistance to which the individual is entitled under this chapter; and

“(3) who—
“(A) is enrolled in a program of education leading to a post-secondary degree that requires more than the standard 128 semester (or 192 quarter) credit hours for completion in—

“(i) biological or biomedical science;
“(ii) physical science;
“(iii) science technologies or technicians;
“(iv) computer and information science and support services;
“(v) mathematics or statistics;
“(vi) engineering;
“(vii) engineering technologies or an engineering-related field;
“(viii) a health profession or related program; or
“(ix) a medical residency program; or

“(B) has earned a post-secondary degree in a field referred to in subparagraph (A) and is enrolled in a program of education leading to a teaching certification.”.

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections at the beginning of such chapter is amended by inserting
after the item relating to section 3319 the following new item:

“3320. Additional benefits.”.