

115TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 4323

To promote veteran involvement in STEM education, computer science, and scientific research, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NOVEMBER 9, 2017

Mr. DUNN (for himself, Mr. TAKANO, Mr. SMITH of Texas, Mr. LOUDERMILK, Mr. BABIN, Mr. KNIGHT, Mr. MARSHALL, and Mr. BANKS of Indiana) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology

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## A BILL

To promote veteran involvement in STEM education, computer science, and scientific research, 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 “Supporting Veterans  
5 in STEM Careers Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

7 In this Act:

8 (1) **DIRECTOR.**—The term “Director” means  
9 the Director of the National Science Foundation.

1           (2) FOUNDATION.—The term “Foundation”  
2 means the National Science Foundation.

3           (3) STEM.—The term “STEM” has the mean-  
4 ing given the term in section 2 of the America COM-  
5 PETES Reauthorization Act of 2010 (42 U.S.C.  
6 6621 note).

7           (4) VETERAN.—The term “veteran” has the  
8 meaning given the term in section 101 of title 38,  
9 United States Code.

10 **SEC. 3. SUPPORTING VETERANS IN STEM EDUCATION AND**  
11 **COMPUTER SCIENCE.**

12           (a) SUPPORTING VETERAN INVOLVEMENT IN SCI-  
13 ENTIFIC RESEARCH AND STEM EDUCATION.—The Di-  
14 rector shall, through the research and education activities  
15 of the Foundation, encourage veterans to study and pur-  
16 sue careers in STEM and computer science, in coordina-  
17 tion with other Federal agencies that serve veterans.

18           (b) VETERAN OUTREACH PLAN.—Not later than 90  
19 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Director  
20 shall submit to the Committee on Science, Space, and  
21 Technology of the House of Representatives and the Com-  
22 mittee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the  
23 Senate a plan for how the Foundation can enhance its out-  
24 reach efforts to veterans. Such plan shall—

1           (1) report on the Foundation’s existing out-  
2 reach activities;

3           (2) identify the best method for the Foundation  
4 to leverage existing authorities and programs to fa-  
5 cilitate and support veterans in STEM careers and  
6 studies, including teaching programs; and

7           (3) identify a method for the Foundation to  
8 track veteran participation in research and edu-  
9 cation programs of the Foundation, and describe  
10 any barriers to collecting such information.

11       (c) NATIONAL SCIENCE BOARD INDICATORS RE-  
12 PORT.—The National Science Board shall provide in its  
13 annual report on indicators of the state of science and en-  
14 gineering in the United States any available and relevant  
15 data on veterans in science and engineering careers or  
16 education programs.

17       (d) ROBERT NOYCE TEACHER SCHOLARSHIP PRO-  
18 GRAM UPDATE.—Section 10 of the National Science  
19 Foundation Authorization Act of 2002 (42 U.S.C. 1862n-  
20 1) is amended—

21           (1) in subsection (a)(5)—

22               (A) in subparagraph (A), by striking  
23 “and” at the end;

24               (B) in subparagraph (B), by striking the  
25 period and inserting “; and”; and

1 (C) by adding at the end the following:

2 “(C) higher education programs that serve  
3 or support veterans.”;

4 (2) in subsection (b)(2)(F)—

5 (A) by striking “and students” and insert-  
6 ing “, students”; and

7 (B) by inserting “, and veterans” before  
8 the period at the end;

9 (3) in subsection (c)(2), by inserting “and vet-  
10 erans” before the period at the end; and

11 (4) in subsection (d)(2), by inserting “and vet-  
12 erans” before the period at the end.

13 (e) NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION TEACHING  
14 FELLOWSHIPS AND MASTER TEACHING FELLOWSHIPS  
15 UPDATE.—Section 10A(d) of the National Science Foun-  
16 dation Authorization Act of 2002 (42 U.S.C. 1862n-  
17 1a(d)) is amended—

18 (1) in paragraph (3)(F)—

19 (A) by striking “and individuals” and in-  
20 serting “, individuals”; and

21 (B) by inserting “, and veterans” before  
22 the period at the end; and

23 (2) in paragraph (4)(B), by inserting “and vet-  
24 erans” before the period at the end.

1 (f) NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION COMPUTER  
2 AND NETWORK SECURITY CAPACITY BUILDING GRANTS  
3 UPDATE.—Section 5(a) of the Cyber Security Research  
4 and Development Act of 2002 (15 U.S.C. 7404(a)) is  
5 amended—

6 (1) in paragraph (1), by inserting “and stu-  
7 dents who are veterans” after “these fields”; and

8 (2) in paragraph (3)—

9 (A) in subparagraph (I), by striking “and”  
10 at the end;

11 (B) by redesignating subparagraph (J) as  
12 subparagraph (K); and

13 (C) by inserting after subparagraph (I) the  
14 following:

15 “(J) creating opportunities for veterans to  
16 transition to careers in computer and network  
17 security; and”.

18 (g) GRADUATE TRAINEESHIPS IN COMPUTER AND  
19 NETWORK SECURITY RESEARCH UPDATE.—Section  
20 5(c)(6)(C) of the Cyber Security Research and Develop-  
21 ment Act of 2002 (15 U.S.C. 7404(c)(6)(C)) is amended  
22 by inserting “or veterans,” after “disciplines”.

23 (h) VETERANS AND MILITARY FAMILIES STEM  
24 EDUCATION INTERAGENCY SUBCOMMITTEE.—

1           (1) IN GENERAL.—The Director of the Office of  
2 Science and Technology Policy shall establish a sub-  
3 committee under the Committee on STEM Edu-  
4 cation of the National Science and Technology  
5 Council (established under section 101 of the Amer-  
6 ica COMPETES Reauthorization Act of 2010) to  
7 coordinate Federal programs and policies for  
8 transitioning and training veterans and military  
9 spouses for STEM careers.

10           (2) DUTIES OF SUBCOMMITTEE.—The sub-  
11 committee established under paragraph (1) shall—

12                   (A) coordinate Federal agency STEM out-  
13 reach activities and programs for veterans and  
14 military spouses; and

15                   (B) develop and facilitate the implementa-  
16 tion by participating agencies of a strategic  
17 plan, which shall—

18                           (i) specify and prioritize short- and  
19 long-term objectives;

20                           (ii) specify the common metrics that  
21 will be used by Federal agencies to assess  
22 progress toward achieving such objectives;

23                           (iii) identify barriers veterans face in  
24 reentering the workforce, including a lack  
25 of formal STEM education, career guid-

1                   ance, and the process of transferring mili-  
2                   tary credits and skills to college credits;

3                   (iv) identify barriers military spouses  
4                   face in establishing careers in STEM  
5                   fields;

6                   (v) describe the approaches that each  
7                   participating agency will take to address  
8                   administratively the barriers described in  
9                   clauses (iii) and (iv); and

10                  (vi) identify any barriers that require  
11                  Federal or State legislative or regulatory  
12                  changes in order to be addressed.

13                  (3) DUTIES OF OSTP.—The Director of the Of-  
14                  fice of Science and Technology Policy shall encour-  
15                  age and monitor the efforts of the Federal agencies  
16                  participating in the subcommittee to ensure that the  
17                  strategic plan required under paragraph (2)(B) is  
18                  developed and executed effectively and that the ob-  
19                  jectives of such strategic plan are met.

20                  (4) REPORT.—The Director of the Office of  
21                  Science and Technology Policy shall—

22                         (A) not later than 1 year after the date of  
23                         enactment of this Act, submit to Congress the  
24                         strategic plan required under paragraph (2)(B);  
25                         and

1           (B) include in the annual report required  
2           by section 101(d) of the America COMPETES  
3           Reauthorization Act a description of any  
4           progress made in carrying out the activities de-  
5           scribed in paragraph (2)(B) of this subsection.

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