

116TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 6212

To provide for the continuation of Department of Veterans Affairs educational assistance benefits during emergency situations, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 11, 2020

Mr. TAKANO introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs

A BILL

To provide for the continuation of Department of Veterans Affairs educational assistance benefits during emergency situations, 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. CONTINUATION OF DEPARTMENT OF VET-**
4 **ERANS AFFAIRS EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE**
5 **BENEFITS DURING EMERGENCY SITUATIONS.**

6 (a) CONTINUATION OF BENEFITS.—During the 180-
7 day period beginning on the date of the enactment of this
8 Act, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs may treat a pro-
9 gram of education offered by distance learning as if such
10 program of education were offered on-site at an edu-

1 cational institution for purposes of the laws administered
2 by the Secretary, if such program of education is—

3 (1) converted from being offered on-site at an
4 educational institution to being offered by distance
5 learning by reason of an emergency or health-related
6 situation, as determined by the Secretary; or

7 (2) offered by distance learning by reason of
8 the existence of an emergency or health-related situ-
9 ation, as so determined.

10 (b) CONTINUATION OF PAYMENT OF ALLOWANCES IN
11 EMERGENCY SITUATIONS.—Section 3680(a) of title 38,
12 United States Code, is amended—

13 (1) in paragraph (2)(A), by striking “4 weeks”
14 and inserting “eight weeks”; and

15 (2) by adding at the end the following new
16 paragraph:

17 “(3) For purposes of this subsection, the term
18 ‘emergency situation’ means—

19 “(A) a public health crisis;

20 “(B) a state of emergency declared by the
21 Federal Government or by a State or local gov-
22 ernment; or

23 “(C) any other situation, as determined by
24 the Secretary.”.

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