

116TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 8426

To provide for modified requirements relating to apprenticeship and on-job training programs during the COVID–19 emergency under the educational assistance programs of the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 29, 2020

Mr. LAMB (for himself, Mr. FITZPATRICK, and Mr. CISNEROS) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs

A BILL

To provide for modified requirements relating to apprenticeship and on-job training programs during the COVID–19 emergency under the educational assistance programs of the Department of Veterans Affairs, 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 “Protecting Apprentice-
5 ship Training for Veterans Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. APPRENTICESHIP OR ON-JOB TRAINING REQUIRE-**
2 **MENTS.**

3 (a) IN GENERAL.—During the period described in
4 subsection (b), subsection (e) of section 3687 of title 38,
5 United States Code, shall be applied by substituting the
6 following for paragraph (2):

7 “(2)(A) Subject to subparagraphs (B) and (C),
8 for any month in which an individual fails to com-
9 plete 120 hours of training, the entitlement other-
10 wise chargeable under paragraph (1) shall be re-
11 duced in the same proportion as the monthly train-
12 ing assistance allowance payable is reduced under
13 subsection (b)(3).

14 “(B) In the case of an individual who is unem-
15 ployed during any month, the 120-hour requirement
16 under subparagraph (A) for that month shall be re-
17 duced proportionately to reflect the individual’s pe-
18 riod of unemployment, except that the amount of
19 monthly training assistance otherwise payable to the
20 individual under subsection (b)(3) shall not be re-
21 duced.

22 “(C) Any period during which an individual is
23 unemployed shall not—

24 “(i) be charged against any entitlement to
25 educational assistance of the individual; or

1 “(ii) be counted against the aggregate pe-
2 riod for which section 3695 of this title limits
3 the receipt of educational assistance by such in-
4 dividual.

5 “(D) Any amount by which the entitlement of
6 an individual is reduced under subparagraph (A)
7 shall not—

8 “(i) be charged against any entitlement to
9 educational assistance of the individual; or

10 “(ii) be counted against the aggregate pe-
11 riod for which section 3695 of this title limits
12 the receipt of educational assistance by such in-
13 dividual.

14 “(E) In the case of an individual who fails to
15 complete 120 hours of training during a month, but
16 who completed more than 120 hours of training dur-
17 ing the preceding month, the individual may apply
18 the number of hours in excess of 120 that the indi-
19 vidual completed for that month to the month for
20 which the individual failed to complete 120 hours. If
21 the addition of such excess hours results in a total
22 of 120 hours or more, the individual shall be treated
23 as an individual who has completed 120 hours of
24 training for that month. Any excess hours applied to

1 a different month under this subparagraph may only
2 be applied to one such month.

3 “(F) This paragraph applies to amounts de-
4 scribed in section 3313(g)(3)(B)(iv) and section
5 3032(e)(2) of this title and section 16131(d)(2) of
6 title 10.

7 “(G) In this paragraph:

8 “(i) The term ‘unemployed’ includes being
9 furloughed or being scheduled to work zero
10 hours.

11 “(ii) The term ‘fails to complete 120 hours
12 of training’ means, with respect to an indi-
13 vidual, that during any month, the individual
14 completes at least one hour, but fewer than 120
15 hours, of training, including in a case in which
16 the individual is unemployed for part of, but
17 not the whole, month.”.

18 (b) **APPLICABILITY PERIOD.**—The period described
19 in this section is the period beginning on March 1, 2020,
20 and ending on December 21, 2021.

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