

116TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 1851

To amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to provide Federal Pell Grants to Iraq and Afghanistan veteran’s dependents.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JUNE 13, 2019

Mr. KAINE (for himself, Mr. LANKFORD, Mr. TESTER, and Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

A BILL

To amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to provide Federal Pell Grants to Iraq and Afghanistan veteran’s dependents.

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 Our Gold
5 Star Families’ Education Act of 2019”.

1 **SEC. 2. PROVIDING FEDERAL PELL GRANTS FOR IRAQ AND**
2 **AFGHANISTAN VETERAN'S DEPENDENTS.**

3 (a) AMENDMENTS.—Part A of title IV of the Higher
4 Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1070a et seq.) is
5 amended—

6 (1) in section 401, by adding at the end the fol-
7 lowing:

8 “(k) GRANTS FOR VETERAN’S DEPENDENTS.—

9 “(1) DEFINITION OF ELIGIBLE VETERAN’S DE-
10 PENDENT.—In this subsection, the term ‘eligible vet-
11 eran’s dependent’ means a dependent or an inde-
12 pendent student—

13 “(A) whose parent or guardian was an in-
14 dividual who, on or after September 11, 2001,
15 died in line of duty while serving on active duty
16 as a member of the Armed Forces; and

17 “(B) who is less than 33 years of age.

18 “(2) GRANTS.—

19 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall
20 award a Federal Pell Grant, as modified in ac-
21 cordance with the requirements of this sub-
22 section, to each eligible veteran’s dependent to
23 assist in paying the eligible veteran’s depend-
24 ent’s cost of attendance at an institution of
25 higher education.

1 “(B) DESIGNATION.—Federal Pell Grants
2 made under this subsection may be known as
3 ‘Iraq and Afghanistan Service Grants’.

4 “(3) PREVENTION OF DOUBLE BENEFITS.—No
5 eligible veteran’s dependent may receive a grant
6 under both this subsection and subsection (a) for the
7 same award year.

8 “(4) TERMS AND CONDITIONS.—

9 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall
10 award Iraq and Afghanistan Service Grants
11 under this subsection in the same manner and
12 with the same terms and conditions, including
13 the length of the period of eligibility, as the
14 Secretary awards Federal Pell Grants under
15 subsection (a), except as otherwise provided in
16 subparagraph (B).

17 “(B) DIFFERENT TERMS AND CONDI-
18 TIONS.—

19 “(i) AMOUNT.—An Iraq and Afghani-
20 stan Service Grant awarded under this
21 subsection for an award year shall equal
22 the maximum Federal Pell Grant available
23 for that award year, except that such Iraq
24 and Afghanistan Service Grant—

1 “(I) shall not exceed the cost of
2 attendance of the eligible veteran’s de-
3 pendent for that award year; and

4 “(II) shall be adjusted to reflect
5 the attendance by the eligible vet-
6 eran’s dependent on a less than full-
7 time basis in the same manner as
8 such adjustments are made for a Fed-
9 eral Pell Grant under subsection (a).

10 “(ii) DETERMINATIONS OF NEED.—
11 The award rules and determination of need
12 applicable to the calculation of Federal
13 Pell Grants under subsection (a) shall not
14 apply to Iraq and Afghanistan Service
15 Grants.

16 “(iii) MAXIMUM PERIOD.—The max-
17 imum period determined under subsection
18 (c)(5) shall be determined by including all
19 Iraq and Afghanistan Service Grants re-
20 ceived by the eligible veteran’s dependent,
21 including such Grants received under sub-
22 part 10 before the effective date of this
23 subsection.

24 “(5) ESTIMATED FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE.—For
25 purposes of determinations of need under part F, an

1 Iraq and Afghanistan Service Grant shall not be
2 treated as estimated financial assistance as de-
3 scribed in sections 471(3) and 480(j).”;

4 (2) by striking subpart 10.

5 (b) EFFECTIVE DATE; TRANSITION.—

6 (1) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made
7 by this section shall take effect with respect to the
8 award year immediately following the date of enact-
9 ment of this Act.

10 (2) TRANSITION.—The Secretary shall take
11 such steps as are necessary to transition from the
12 Iraq and Afghanistan Service Grants program under
13 subpart 10 of part A of title IV of the Higher Edu-
14 cation Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1070h), as in effect
15 on the day before the effective date of this section,
16 and the Iraq and Afghanistan Service Grants pro-
17 gram under section 401(k) of the Higher Education
18 Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1070a(k)), as amended by
19 this section.

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