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119TH CONGRESS
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S. 2328

[Report No. 119-_____]]

To authorize the use of veterans educational assistance for examinations and assessments to receive credit toward degrees awarded by institutions of higher learning, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JULY 17, 2025

Mr. COONS (for himself and Ms. ERNST) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs

_____ (legislative day, _____), _____

Reported by _____, with an amendment and an amendment to the title

[Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert the part printed in italic]

A BILL

To authorize the use of veterans educational assistance for examinations and assessments to receive credit toward degrees awarded by institutions of higher learning, 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,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “Military Learning for
3 Credit Act of 2025”.

4 **SEC. 2. AUTHORITY FOR USE OF VETERANS EDUCATIONAL**
5 **ASSISTANCE FOR EXAMINATIONS AND AS-**
6 **SESSMENTS TO RECEIVE CREDIT TOWARD**
7 **DEGREES AWARDED BY INSTITUTIONS OF**
8 **HIGHER LEARNING.**

9 (a) **IN GENERAL.**—An individual who is entitled to
10 veterans educational assistance may use such assistance
11 to cover the costs of covered examinations and assess-
12 ments to receive credit toward degrees awarded by institu-
13 tions of higher learning for approved programs of edu-
14 cation.

15 (b) **VETERANS EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE.**—For
16 purposes of this section, veterans educational assistance
17 is educational assistance available to veterans and other
18 eligible individuals under the provisions of law as follows:

19 (1) Chapters 30, 32, 33, 34, and 35 of title 38,
20 United States Code.

21 (2) Any other provision of law providing edu-
22 cational assistance to a veteran, or to another indi-
23 vidual in connection with the service of a veteran in
24 the Armed Forces.

25 (c) **LIMITATION ON AMOUNT USABLE.**—The total
26 amount of veterans educational assistance that may be

1 used for the costs of a covered examination or assessment
2 under subsection (a) may not exceed the lesser of—

3 (1) the amount charged for the examination or
4 assessment by the entity administering the examina-
5 tion or assessment; or

6 (2) \$500.

7 (d) CHARGE AGAINST ENTITLEMENT.—

8 (1) IN GENERAL.—The number of months (or
9 fraction thereof) of entitlement charged an indi-
10 vidual under the applicable provision of law specified
11 in subsection (b) for use of veterans educational as-
12 sistance for costs of covered examinations and as-
13 sessments under this section shall be equal to the
14 quotient obtained by dividing—

15 (A) the cost of the examination or assess-
16 ment (as determined pursuant to subsection
17 (e)); by

18 (B) the monthly rate of veterans edu-
19 cational assistance to which the individual is en-
20 titled under such provision of law at the time
21 of the examination or assessment.

22 (2) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—A charge
23 against entitlement to educational assistance under
24 a law administered by the Secretary of Veterans Af-
25 fairs in order to receive assistance under this section

1 shall not be construed to affect entitlement to edu-
2 cational assistance under a law administered by the
3 Secretary of Defense, including entitlement to edu-
4 cational assistance under the Department of Defense
5 Tuition Assistance Program.

6 (c) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

7 (1) The term “approved program of education”
8 means a program of education approved for use of
9 veterans educational assistance pursuant to chapter
10 35 or 36 of title 38, United States Code, or another
11 applicable provision of law.

12 (2) The term “covered examinations and assess-
13 ments” means the following:

14 (A) A DANTES Subject Standardized
15 Test Program (DSST) examination.

16 (B) A College Level Examination Program
17 (CLEP) examination.

18 (C) The National Career Readiness Certifi-
19 cate examination.

20 (D) Any other examination of a similar na-
21 ture to an exam specified in subparagraph (A),
22 (B), or (C) specified by the Secretary of Vet-
23 erans Affairs for purposes of this section.

24 (E) An assessment by an institution of
25 higher learning of a portfolio or written nar-

1 rative by a student with supporting documenta-
2 tion that demonstrates prior military training
3 or learning.

4 (3) The term “institution of higher learning”
5 has the meaning given such term in section 3452(f)
6 of title 38, United States Code.

7 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

8 *This Act may be cited as the “Military Learning for*
9 *Credit Act of 2026”.*

10 **SEC. 2. EXPANSION OF ENTITLEMENT FOR PAYMENT FOR**
11 **LICENSING OR CERTIFICATION TESTS FOR**
12 **VETERANS ENTITLED TO EDUCATIONAL AS-**
13 **SISTANCE.**

14 *Section 3315 of title 38, United States Code, is amend-*
15 *ed—*

16 (1) *in subsection (a), by striking “educational*
17 *assistance under this chapter” and inserting “covered*
18 *assistance”;*

19 (2) *in subsection (b)(3), by striking “under this*
20 *chapter” and inserting “with respect to covered assist-*
21 *ance”;*

22 (3) *in subsection (c), in the matter preceding*
23 *paragraph (1), by striking “under this chapter” and*
24 *inserting “with respect to covered assistance”; and*

1 (4) *by adding at the end the following new sub-*
2 *section:*

3 “(d) *COVERED ASSISTANCE DEFINED.—In this sec-*
4 *tion, the term ‘covered assistance’ means educational assist-*
5 *ance available under—*

6 “*(1) this chapter, chapter 30 of this title, chapter*
7 *35 of this title, or chapter 1606 of title 10; or*

8 “*(2) any other provision of law providing edu-*
9 *cational assistance to a veteran, or to another indi-*
10 *vidual in connection with the service of a veteran in*
11 *the Armed Forces.”.*

Amend the title so as to read: “A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to expand entitlement for payment for certain licensing or certification tests for veterans entitled to educational assistance, and for other purposes.”.