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(Original Signature of Member)

116TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. _____

To amend title 38, United States Code, to improve the work-study allowance program administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

M. _____ introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on _____

A BILL

To amend title 38, United States Code, to improve the work-study allowance program administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs.

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 “GI Bill Work Study
5 Improvement Act of 2019”.

1 **SEC. 2. IMPROVEMENT TO WORK-STUDY ALLOWANCE PRO-**
2 **GRAM.**

3 (a) PAYMENT OF ALLOWANCE.—Subsection (a) of
4 section 3485 of title 38, United States Code, is amended—

5 (1) in paragraph (1), by striking “Individuals”
6 and inserting “In accordance with paragraph (4), in-
7 dividuals”;

8 (2) by redesignating paragraphs (4), (5), and
9 (6) as paragraphs (5), (6), and (7), respectively; and

10 (3) by inserting after paragraph (3) the fol-
11 lowing new paragraph:

12 “(4)(A) The Secretary shall carry out this section by
13 providing to educational institutions an annual amount for
14 the institution to use in paying work-study allowance
15 under paragraph (1) to individuals enrolled at the institu-
16 tion.

17 “(B) With respect to an educational institution that
18 participated in the work-study program under this section
19 during the academic year beginning August 1, 2018, the
20 Secretary shall determine the annual amount to provide
21 to the educational institution under subparagraph (A) as
22 follows:

23 “(i) For the academic year beginning August 1,
24 2020, the amount shall be the total amount the Sec-
25 retary paid under this section to individuals enrolled

1 at such educational institution during the academic
2 year beginning August 1, 2018.

3 “(ii) Except as provided by subparagraph
4 (D)(ii), for each academic year beginning on or after
5 August 1, 2021, the amount shall be the total
6 amount the educational institution paid under this
7 section for work-study allowance to individuals en-
8 rolled at such educational institution during the pre-
9 vious academic year in which individuals participated
10 in the work-study program.

11 “(C) With respect to an educational institution that
12 did not participate in the work-study program under this
13 section during the academic year beginning August 1,
14 2018, the Secretary shall determine the annual amount
15 to provide to the educational institution under subpara-
16 graph (A) as follows:

17 “(i) For the first academic year in which the
18 educational institution participates in the work-study
19 program beginning on or after August 1, 2020, the
20 amount shall be an amount the Secretary determines
21 appropriate based on amounts provided to similar
22 educational institutions pursuant to subparagraph
23 (B).

24 “(ii) Except as provided by subparagraph
25 (D)(ii), for each academic year occurring after the

1 academic year specified in clause (i), the amount
2 shall be the total amount the educational institution
3 paid under this section for work-study allowance to
4 individuals enrolled at such educational institution
5 during the previous academic year in which individ-
6 uals enrolled at such educational institution partici-
7 pated in the work-study program.

8 “(D)(i) Except as provided in clause (ii), if the Sec-
9 retary provides an annual amount to an educational insti-
10 tution under subparagraph (B) or (C) that is more than
11 the total amount the educational institution pays to indi-
12 viduals under paragraph (1), the educational institution
13 shall return to the Secretary the unpaid amount and the
14 Secretary shall transfer such amount into the general fund
15 of the Treasury.

16 “(ii) If the annual amount provided to an educational
17 institution under subparagraph (B) or (C) is more, but
18 less than ten percent more, than the total amount the edu-
19 cational institution pays to individuals under paragraph
20 (1), and the educational institution plans to participate
21 in the work-study program under this section during the
22 subsequent academic year, the educational institution may
23 retain the amount of the overpayment if the educational
24 institution notifies the Secretary of the amount of the
25 overpayment and the intention of the educational institu-

1 tion to retain such amount. Any amount retained by an
2 educational institution under this clause may only be used
3 by the educational institution to provide work-study allow-
4 ance to individuals enrolled at the educational institution.

5 “(iii) At any time an educational institution may re-
6 quest the Secretary to increase the annual amount that
7 the Secretary provides the educational institution under
8 subparagraph (B) or (C).

9 “(E) Pursuant to section 3690(e), section 3693, and
10 other provisions of chapter 36 of this title, the Secretary
11 shall ensure that educational institutions carry out the
12 work-study allowance program in compliance with this sec-
13 tion.”.

14 (b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Subsection (e)(1)
15 of such section is amended by striking “subsection (a)(4)”
16 and inserting “subsection (a)(5)”.

17 (c) APPLICATION.—The amendments made by this
18 section shall apply with respect to a quarter, semester, or
19 term, as applicable, commencing on or after August 1,
20 2020.