

117TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 1935

To amend title 38, United States Code, to provide for an extension of the period of eligibility under the Department of Veterans Affairs training and rehabilitation program for veterans with service-connected disabilities by reason of school closures due to emergency and other situations, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MAY 27, 2021

Mr. BOOKER introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs

A BILL

To amend title 38, United States Code, to provide for an extension of the period of eligibility under the Department of Veterans Affairs training and rehabilitation program for veterans with service-connected disabilities by reason of school closures due to emergency and other 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. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Veteran Readiness and
5 Employment National Emergency Extended Deadline Act
6 of 2021” or the “VR&E NEED Act of 2021”.

1 **SEC. 2. EXTENSION OF PERIOD OF ELIGIBILITY BY REASON**
 2 **OF SCHOOL CLOSURES DUE TO EMERGENCY**
 3 **AND OTHER SITUATIONS UNDER DEPART-**
 4 **MENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS TRAINING AND**
 5 **REHABILITATION PROGRAM FOR VETERANS**
 6 **WITH SERVICE-CONNECTED DISABILITIES.**

7 Section 3103 of title 38, United States Code, is
 8 amended—

9 (1) in subsection (a), by striking “or (g)” and
 10 inserting “(g), or (h)”; and

11 (2) by adding at the end the following new sub-
 12 section:

13 “(h)(1) In the case of a veteran who is eligible for
 14 a vocational rehabilitation program under this chapter and
 15 who is prevented from participating in the vocational reha-
 16 bilitation program within the period of eligibility pre-
 17 scribed in subsection (a) because of a covered reason, as
 18 determined by the Secretary, such period of eligibility—

19 “(A) shall not run during the period the vet-
 20 eran is so prevented from participating in such pro-
 21 gram; and

22 “(B) shall again begin running on a date deter-
 23 mined by the Secretary that is—

24 “(i) not earlier than the first day after the
 25 veteran is able to resume participation in a vo-

1 cational rehabilitation program under this chap-
2 ter; and

3 “(ii) not later than 90 days after that day.

4 “(2) In this subsection, a covered reason is—

5 “(A) the temporary or permanent closure of an
6 educational institution by reason of an emergency
7 situation; or

8 “(B) another reason that prevents the veteran
9 from participating in the vocational rehabilitation
10 program, as determined by the Secretary.”.

○