

effort to modernize VA care and services. I thank the VFW and DAV for their support of this bipartisan legislation, and I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 6656, as amended.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

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Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise to express my support for H.R. 6656, the Stuck On Hold Act, as amended.

This bill mandates that the Department of Veterans Affairs implement automated callback systems for their customer phone lines and aim to limit wait time for veterans on hold to no more than 10 minutes.

Since we skipped regular order on this bill, we were not able to mark it up in committee and make the needed improvements to the bill. I was not informed why we are rushing this bill to the floor without a markup, but I appreciate that the chairman's staff worked with mine to amend the bill to include important changes to improve the bill to ensure that veterans who should be prioritized for assistance are not negatively impacted by excessive wait times.

Considering the Senate is unlikely to take this bill up as written due to concerns with implementation, I also hope we can continue to work with our Senate colleagues to determine the correct amount of time we should target for veterans on hold.

Obviously, no one likes being on hold, but ideally every veteran should have the option to receive a callback instead of needlessly remaining on hold and waiting for assistance.

During our limited committee consideration, our committee heard from VA about concerns for implementation, and I believe limiting hold time is not simply picking a number but also requires us to understand what resources are necessary to limit hold times.

The rush to get this bill to the floor did not allow for a more detailed conversation about resources and impacts, so I hope a truncated committee process will not prevent us from engaging with the Senate to ensure we enact the best possible bill.

Mr. Speaker, I will support the bill for now with the expectation that there is more work to do, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BOST. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from California (Mr. CALVERT).

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding me time.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 6656, the Stuck On Hold Act, legislation I introduced to support American veterans.

This legislation is simple yet powerful in its potential to make government services more accessible to those who served our country.

In a time when technology has advanced significantly in the private sec-

tor, it is long overdue that we bring the same level of efficiency and user-friendly approach to our Federal agencies, like the VA.

Right now, when a veteran picks up the phone to call the VA, they often face long, uncertain wait times. They sit on hold, sometimes for hours, with no clear idea of when their call will be answered or how long they will have to wait.

The frustration this causes is immeasurable, and frankly, it is unacceptable.

That is why the Stuck On Hold Act is so crucial. The bill requires the VA to implement a system to inform callers of their estimated wait times and, when those times exceed 10 minutes, give them the option of receiving an automated callback when it is their turn.

Many of us are familiar with this kind of system from our interactions with private companies. It is not a new idea, and it is not revolutionary technology, but for millions of Americans who rely on the VA for benefits or medical treatment, it is a game changer. It shows respect for their time and acknowledges the importance of their needs.

Mr. Speaker, it is time for Congress to set acceptable customer service standards for our Federal departments and agencies. The American people, especially those who have served our country, deserve a responsible and efficient government.

That is why the Stuck On Hold Act is supported by the veterans service organizations, including the Veterans of Foreign Wars, the Disabled American Veterans, and others.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Chairman BOST and Ranking Member TAKANO of the Veterans' Affairs Committee, as well as Chairman VAN ORDEN and Ranking Member LEVIN of the Economic Opportunity Subcommittee and their respective staff for helping us bring this important legislation to the House floor.

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I support H.R. 6656, as amended, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. BOST. Mr. Speaker, once again, I encourage all Members to support the legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. BOST) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 6656, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

DELIVER FOR VETERANS ACT

Mr. BOST. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 522) to amend title 38, United States Code, to authorize the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to provide or assist

in providing a vehicle adapted for operation by disabled individuals to certain eligible persons, to pay expenses associated with the delivery of such vehicle, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 522

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Deliver for Veterans Act".

SEC. 2. ELIGIBILITY FOR DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS COVERAGE OF COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH DELIVERY OF AN ADAPTIVE VEHICLE.

Section 3902(a) of title 38, United States Code, is amended by striking "by paying the total purchase price of the automobile or other conveyance" and inserting "by paying the total purchase price of the automobile or other conveyance, and the total shipping price to deliver the automobile or other conveyance to the veteran".

SEC. 3. MODIFICATION OF CERTAIN HOUSING LOAN FEES.

The loan fee table in section 3729(b)(2) of title 38, United States Code, is amended by striking "November 15, 2031" each place it appears and inserting "November 29, 2031".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. BOST) and the gentleman from California (Mr. TAKANO) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Illinois.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. BOST. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks on H.R. 522, as amended.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Illinois?

There was no objection.

Mr. BOST. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 522 offered by my friend and colleague, Delegate MOYLAN from Guam.

This bill would allow VA to pay for the shipping price of specially adapted vehicles for disabled veterans.

Currently, service-connected disabled veterans who are unable to drive due to their disability can work with the VA to get an adapted vehicle for their use. Unfortunately, shipping costs are not currently under the program, so it is difficult for a disabled veteran to have an adapted vehicle shipped to them.

While this might not be an issue for some veterans, other veterans are unable to use the program because the resources are not available close to home to make the modifications necessary.

Delegate MOYLAN's bill would correct this issue by allowing shipping costs to be covered by the VA. At a time when people across the country are feeling the effects of the Biden-Harris economic policies, Congress needs to help veterans stretch their dollars a little further.

This bill would do just that, and it would save potentially thousands of dollars for disabled veterans. I thank the DAV and VFW for their tireless work on this legislation.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 522, as amended, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise to express my support for H.R. 522, the Deliver for Veterans Act, as amended.

This bill would make it easier for disabled veterans to obtain the adaptive automobiles they are entitled to through their service-connected disability. If signed into law, this bill would save veterans tens of thousands of dollars on shipping costs of vehicles.

Last Congress, we passed the Veterans Auto and Education Improvement Act, a bill authored by Ranking Member MIKE LEVIN and Representative LIZZIE FLETCHER, which expanded the adaptive auto benefit for veterans, allowing them to get a new vehicle if 10 years have passed since using the benefit.

This bill from Representative MOYLAN builds upon that work by simplifying the process for veterans who require their adaptive vehicle to be shipped. This includes veterans who live in areas such as Guam, Puerto Rico, and the Northern Mariana Islands.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BOST. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Guam (Mr. MOYLAN), the sponsor of this bill.

Mr. MOYLAN. Mr. Speaker, I will talk about a significant piece of legislation that would benefit many of our Nation's heroes residing in very remote locations, H.R. 522, the Deliver for Veterans Act.

This bill is a significant step forward in ensuring our veterans receive the care, support, and service they not only deserve but that is also legally available. However, obtaining some of these benefits can be challenging because of location.

Currently, a program with the Department of Veterans Affairs allows disabled veterans to receive about \$25,000 to purchase an adaptive vehicle. However, veterans residing in remote areas, such as Guam, Hawaii, Alaska, or other jurisdictions throughout the Nation, would have to pay the rates to ship the vehicle to their homes. It would easily cost between \$3,000 to \$4,000 for a vehicle to be shipped to Guam or Hawaii. I can't imagine the shipping costs if it came from the West Coast.

H.R. 522 addresses this problem by including shipping costs as part of the program. This ensures that a veteran with a disability can obtain an adaptive vehicle from this program and have it delivered to their home.

The legislation would assist many veterans residing in my district of

Guam, which has among the Nation's highest number of veterans per capita. H.R. 522 would also benefit veterans residing in other territories, such as the Northern Marianas and American Samoa. Moreover, it would support those residing in noncontiguous States, such as Hawaii and Alaska, and greatly help veterans living in rural communities throughout the Nation.

This legislation needs to be passed. This bill is another step toward closing many gaps of inadequate care for veterans living in remote areas.

I appreciate my colleagues' support in continuing to deliver our promise to those who served. Veterans have sacrificed so much for our freedoms. It is our duty and moral obligation to ensure they receive the highest standard of care and support when they return home.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all the Members to support H.R. 522 and work together to give back to our veterans who have already given so much to our country.

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I urge all of my colleagues to join me in passing H.R. 522, the Deliver for Veterans Act, as amended, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. BOST. Mr. Speaker, once again, I encourage all Members to support this legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. BOST) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 522, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

MONTGOMERY GI BILL SELECTED RESERVES TUITION FAIRNESS ACT OF 2024

Mr. BOST. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 7323) to amend title 38, United States Code, to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to disapprove courses of education offered by a public institution of higher learning that does not charge the in-State tuition rate to a veteran using certain educational assistance under title 10 of such Code, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 7323

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Montgomery GI Bill Selected Reserves Tuition Fairness Act of 2024".

SEC. 2. DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS DISAPPROVAL OF COURSES OFFERED BY PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING THAT DO NOT CHARGE VETERANS IN-STATE TUITION RATE FOR PURPOSES OF SELECTED RESERVE EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subsection (c) of section 3679 of title 38, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1), by inserting “, or chapter 1606 of title 10,” after “chapter 30, 31, 33, or 35 of this title”;

(2) in paragraph (2), by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

“(E) An individual who is entitled to assistance under section 16131 of title 10.”; and

(3) in paragraph (6), by inserting “, or chapter 1606 of title 10” before the period at the end.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—Subsection (e) of such section is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1)—

(A) in subparagraph (A), by inserting “, or chapter 1606 of title 10,” after “chapter 31, 33, or 35 of this title”; and

(B) in subparagraph (B), by striking “chapter 31 33, or 35 of this title” and inserting “chapter 31, 33, or 35 of this title, or chapter 1606 of title 10”; and

(2) in paragraph (2), by striking “chapter 31 33, or 35 of this title” and inserting “chapter 31, 33, or 35 of this title, or chapter 1606 of title 10”.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall take effect on the date of the enactment of this Act and shall apply with respect to an academic period that begins on or after August 1, 2025.

SEC. 3. LIMITATION ON AMOUNT OF ENTITLEMENT TO EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE PAYABLE FOR FLIGHT TRAINING UNDER POST-9/11 EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM OF DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 3313 of title 38, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in subsection (g)(3)(C), by striking “In the case” and inserting “Subject to the limitation under subsection (m), in the case”; and

(2) by adding at the end the following new subsection:

“(m) LIMITATION ON USE OF ENTITLEMENT FOR FLIGHT TRAINING.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provision of this chapter and subject to paragraphs (2) and (3), the maximum amount payable under this chapter to an individual, over the lifetime of the individual, for tuition and fees for the pursuit of a program of flight training offered by a public institution of higher learning that leads to a degree, certificate, or other non-college degree, regardless of how many such programs the individual pursues, is—

“(A) in the case of an individual who first pursues such a program during the academic year beginning on August 1, 2025, \$115,749; or

“(B) in the case of an individual who first pursues such a program during an academic year beginning on August 1 of any subsequent year, the amount in effect under this subsection for the previous academic year beginning on August 1, as increased by the percentage increase equal to the most recent percentage increase determined under section 3015(h) of this title.

“(2) PURSUIT ON LESS THAN A FULL-TIME BASIS.—In the case of an individual who is entitled to educational assistance under this chapter by reason of any of paragraph (3) through (7) of section 3311(b) of this title, the maximum amount payable under paragraph (1) is—

“(A) the amount in effect under paragraph (1), multiplied by

“(B) the same percentage applicable to the monthly amounts payable to the individual