



Student Veterans of America
Board of Directors

December 14th, 2010

House Veterans Affairs Committee
335 Cannon House Office Building

The Honorable Congressman Filner, Chairman
The Honorable Congressman Buyer, Ranking Member

Chairman Filner, Ranking Member Buyer, and esteemed Members,

We at Student Veterans of America strongly support the provisions of S. 3447, which was passed unanimously by the Senate last evening, on December 14th, 2010. This bill enjoys broad bipartisan support, corrects many of the deficiencies of the original Post 9/11 GI Bill, and even reduces the deficit by more than \$700 million over ten years. It is rare that this kind of opportunity comes along with overwhelming support from both parties and the vast majority, if not all, of the veteran services organizations, and we respectfully request that you move to ensure its swift passage.

This Bill will truly change the landscape of veterans' education, and is a fantastic follow-up to the Post 9/11 GI Bill that was passed into law two years ago. Since that time we have seen great successes come from its provisions, and yet we have also seen some veterans left out of its generous promises. S. 3447 addresses almost all of these concerns, and we are excited to be involved in its movement to help all veterans, despite this difficult political climate.

Among its many improvements, S. 3447 establishes a national average for private and graduate school rates that will alleviate the most complex part of this program by giving predictability to all veterans as to what their benefit is worth regardless of where they are studying. Additionally, allowing the Post 9/11 GI Bill to be used for vocational training and apprenticeships, including Title 32 National Guard service members, and providing a housing allowance to distance learners will finally close some of the largest issues with the program thus far, expanding the eligibility and usage to its intended audience: all Post 9/11 veterans.



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We are excited and proud to stand with you on this issue and we look forward to continuing to work with you to help our nation's heroes achieve success in the classroom and in their professional lives. Giving student veterans the tools they need to excel in their chosen careers will allow them to continue their exceptional contributions to our country. Please stand with us by passing S. 3447.

Very Respectfully,

Jeremy Glasstetter
National President

For media and policy questions, please contact our Executive Director, Michael Dakduk at Michael.Dakduk@studentveterans.org

To arrange a meeting with an SVA Staff Member in Washington DC, please contact our Director of Government Relations, Michael Schwille at Michael.Schwille@studentveterans.org