

115TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

**S.** \_\_\_\_\_

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

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

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Mr. COONS (for himself and Mrs. ERNST) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on \_\_\_\_\_

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**A BILL**

To authorize the use of veterans educational assistance for examinations 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,*

3       **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4       This Act may be cited as the “Military Learning for  
5       Credit Act of 2018”.

1 **SEC. 2. AUTHORITY FOR USE OF VETERANS EDUCATIONAL**  
2 **ASSISTANCE FOR EXAMINATIONS TO RE-**  
3 **CEIVE CREDIT TOWARD DEGREES AWARDED**  
4 **BY INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING.**

5 (a) IN GENERAL.—An individual who is entitled to  
6 veterans educational assistance may use such assistance  
7 to cover the costs of examinations to receive credit toward  
8 degrees awarded by institutions of higher learning for ap-  
9 proved programs of education.

10 (b) VETERANS EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE.—For  
11 purposes of this section, veterans educational assistance  
12 is educational assistance available to veterans and other  
13 eligible individuals under the provisions of law as follows:

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

16 (2) Any other provision of law providing edu-  
17 cational assistance to a veteran, or to another indi-  
18 vidual in connection with the service of a veteran in  
19 the Armed Forces.

20 (c) EXAMINATIONS.—The examinations for which  
21 veterans educational assistance may be used pursuant to  
22 this section include the following:

23 (1) A DANTES Subject Standardized Test  
24 Program (DSST) examination.

25 (2) A College Level Examination Program  
26 (CLEP) examination.

1           (3) The National Career Readiness Certificate  
2           examination.

3           (4) Any other examination of a similar nature  
4           to an exam specified in paragraph (1), (2), or (3)  
5           specified by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs for  
6           purposes of this section.

7           (5) Exams that require students to develop  
8           portfolios or written narratives with supporting doc-  
9           umentation that demonstrate prior military training  
10          or learning.

11          (d) LIMITATION ON AMOUNT USABLE.—The total  
12          amount of veterans educational assistance that may be  
13          used for costs of an examination under subsection (a) may  
14          not exceed the lesser of—

15                (1) the amount charged for the examination by  
16                the entity administering the examination; or

17                (2) \$500.

18          (e) CHARGE AGAINST ENTITLEMENT.—

19                (1) IN GENERAL.—The number of months (or  
20                fraction thereof) of entitlement charged an indi-  
21                vidual under the applicable provision of law specified  
22                in subsection (b) for use of veterans educational as-  
23                sistance for costs of an examination under this sec-  
24                tion shall be equal to the quotient obtained by divid-  
25                ing—

1 (A) the cost of the examination (as deter-  
2 mined pursuant to subsection (d)); by

3 (B) the monthly rate of veterans edu-  
4 cational assistance to which the individual is en-  
5 titled under such provision of law at the time  
6 of the examination.

7 (2) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—A charge  
8 against entitlement to educational assistance under  
9 a law administered by the Secretary of Veterans Af-  
10 fairs in order to receive assistance under this section  
11 shall not be construed to affect entitlement to edu-  
12 cational assistance under a law administered by the  
13 Secretary of Defense, including entitlement to edu-  
14 cational assistance under the Department of Defense  
15 Tuition Assistance Program.

16 (f) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

17 (1) APPROVED PROGRAM OF EDUCATION.—The  
18 term “approved program of education” means a pro-  
19 gram of education approved for use of veterans edu-  
20 cational assistance pursuant to chapter 35 or 36 of  
21 title 38, United States Code, or another applicable  
22 provision of law.

23 (2) INSTITUTION OF HIGHER LEARNING.—The  
24 term “institution of higher learning” has the mean-

- 1        ing given such term in section 3452(f) of title 38,
- 2        United States Code.