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(Original Signature of Member)

117TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R.

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.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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

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.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

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

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

11 Section 3103 of title 38, United States Code, is
12 amended—

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

15 (2) by adding at the end the following new sub-
16 section:

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

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

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

3 “(i) not earlier than the first day after the
4 veteran is able to resume participation in a vo-
5 cational rehabilitation program under this chap-
6 ter; and

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

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

9 “(A) the temporary or permanent closure of an
10 educational institution by reason of an emergency
11 situation; or

12 “(B) another reason that prevents the veteran
13 from participating in the vocational rehabilitation
14 program, as determined by the Secretary.”.