

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 6377

To amend title 38, United States Code, to provide for the eligibility of siblings of certain veterans for educational assistance under the educational assistance programs of the Department of Veterans Affairs.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

DECEMBER 3, 2025

Ms. BROWNLEY introduced the following bill; which was referred to the
Committee on Veterans' Affairs

A BILL

To amend title 38, United States Code, to provide for the eligibility of siblings of certain veterans for educational assistance under the educational assistance programs of the Department of Veterans Affairs.

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 “This act may be cited
5 as the “Gold Star Siblings Educational Benefits Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. ELIGIBILITY OF SIBLINGS OF CERTAIN VETERANS**
2 **FOR EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE UNDER DE-**
3 **PARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS SUR-**
4 **VIVORS' AND DEPENDENTS' EDUCATIONAL**
5 **ASSISTANCE PROGRAM.**

6 (a) **ELIGIBILITY.**—Paragraph (1) of subsection (a) of
7 section 3501 of title 38, United States Code, is amended—

8 (1) in subparagraph (B), by inserting “or sib-
9 ling” after “spouse”;

10 (2) in subparagraph (C), by striking “spouse or
11 child” and inserting “spouse, child, or sibling”;

12 (3) in subparagraph (D), by inserting “or sib-
13 ling” after “spouse” both places it appears; and

14 (4) in subparagraph (E), by striking “spouse or
15 child” and inserting “spouse, child, or sibling”.

16 (b) **SIBLING DEFINED.**—Such subsection is further
17 amended by adding at the end the following new para-
18 graph:

19 “(13) The term ‘sibling’ means a brother or sis-
20 ter, whether by blood, adoption, or through a recog-
21 nized guardianship or family relationship.”.

1 **SEC. 3. ELIGIBILITY OF SIBLINGS OF CERTAIN VETERANS**
 2 **FOR EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE UNDER MA-**
 3 **RINE GUNNERY SERGEANT JOHN DAVID FRY**
 4 **SCHOLARSHIP.**

5 (a) ELIGIBILITY.—Each of paragraphs (8), (9), and
 6 (10) of subsection (b) of section 3311 of title 38, United
 7 States Code, are amended by striking “child or spouse”
 8 and inserting “child, spouse, or sibling”.

9 (b) SIBLING DEFINED.—Paragraph (4) of subsection
 10 (f) of such section is amended to read as follows:

11 “(4) DEFINITIONS.—For purposes of para-
 12 graphs (8), (9), and (10) of subsection (b):

13 “(A) The term ‘child’ includes a married
 14 individual or an individual who is above the age
 15 of twenty-three years.

16 “(B) The term ‘sibling’ means a brother or
 17 sister, whether by blood, adoption, or through a
 18 recognized guardianship or family relation-
 19 ship.”.

20 **SEC. 4. ELIGIBILITY OF SIBLINGS OF CERTAIN VETERANS**
 21 **FOR EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE TRANS-**
 22 **FERRED UNDER POST-9/11 EDUCATIONAL AS-**
 23 **SISTANCE PROGRAM.**

24 (a) ELIGIBILITY.—Section 3319 of title 38, United
 25 States Code, is amended—

26 (1) in subsection (c)(2)—

1 (A) by striking “has the meaning given the
2 term ‘dependent’ under subparagraphs (A), (I),
3 and (D) of section 1072(2) of title 10.” and in-
4 serting “means an person who, with respect to
5 an individual approved to transfer an entitle-
6 ment to educational assistance under this sec-
7 tion, is—”; and

8 (B) by adding at the end the following new
9 subparagraphs:

10 “(A) a dependent referred to in subpara-
11 graph (A), (D), or (I) of section 1072(2) of title
12 10; or

13 “(B) the sibling of the individual.”;
14 (2) in subsection (g)—

15 (A) in paragraph (1), by inserting “or a
16 sibling 23 years of age or older” after
17 “spouse”; and

18 (B) in paragraph (2),

19 (i) in the matter preceding subpara-
20 graph (A), by inserting “or a sibling under
21 the age of 23” after “child”; and

22 (ii) in subparagraph (B), by inserting
23 “or sibling” after “child” both places it ap-
24 pears;

25 (3) in subsection (h)—

1 (A) in paragraph (2)—

2 (i) in subparagraph (A)—

3 (I) by inserting “or a sibling 23
4 years of age or older” after “a
5 spouse”; and

6 (II) by inserting “or the sibling”
7 after “the spouse”; and

8 (ii) in subparagraph (B)—

9 (I) by inserting “or a sibling
10 under the age of 23” after “a child”;
11 and

12 (II) by inserting “or the sibling”
13 after “the child”;

14 (B) in paragraph (3)—

15 (i) in subparagraph (A), by inserting
16 “or a sibling 23 years of age or older”
17 after “spouse”; and

18 (ii) in subparagraph (B), by inserting
19 “or a sibling under the age of 23” after
20 “child”;

21 (C) by redesignating paragraphs (6) and
22 (7) as paragraphs (7) and (8), respectively; and

23 (D) by inserting after paragraph (5) the
24 following new paragraph (6):

1 “(6) LIMITATION ON AGE OF USE BY SIBLING
2 TRANSFEREES.—

3 “(A) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in
4 subparagraphs (B) and (C), a sibling to whom
5 entitlement is transferred under this section
6 may use the benefits transferred until the later
7 of the following dates:

8 “(i) The 15-year delimiting date speci-
9 fied in section 3321.

10 “(ii) The date on which the sibling at-
11 tains the age of 26 years.

12 “(B) PRIMARY CAREGIVERS OF SERIOUSLY
13 INJURED MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES
14 AND VETERANS.—

15 “(i) IN GENERAL.—Subject to clause
16 (ii), in the case of a sibling who, before at-
17 taining the age of 26 years, is prevented
18 from pursuing a chosen program of edu-
19 cation by reason of acting as the primary
20 provider of personal care services for a vet-
21 eran or member of the Armed Forces
22 under section 1720G(a) of this title, the
23 sibling may use the benefits beginning on
24 the date specified in clause (iii) for a pe-

1 riod whose length is specified in clause
2 (iv).

3 “(ii) INAPPLICABILITY FOR REVOCATION.—Clause (i) shall not apply with re-
4 spect to a period during which an indi-
5 vidual acts as a primary provider of per-
6 sonal care services if the period concludes
7 with the revocation of the individual’s des-
8 ignation as such a primary provider under
9 section 1720G(a)(7)(D) of this title.

11 “(iii) DATE FOR COMMENCEMENT OF
12 USE.—The date specified in this clause for
13 the beginning of the use of benefits by a
14 sibling under clause (i) is the later of—

15 “(I) the date on which the sibling
16 ceases acting as the primary provider
17 of personal care services for the vet-
18 eran or member concerned as de-
19 scribed in clause (i);

20 “(II) the date on which it is rea-
21 sonably feasible, as determined under
22 regulations prescribed by the Sec-
23 retary, for the sibling to initiate or re-
24 sume the use of benefits; or

1 “(III) the date on which the sib-
2 ling attains the age of 26 years.

3 “(iv) LENGTH OF USE.—The length
4 of the period specified in this clause for the
5 use of benefits by a sibling under clause (i)
6 is the length equal to the length of the pe-
7 riod that—

8 “(I) begins on the date on which
9 the sibling begins acting as the pri-
10 mary provider of personal care serv-
11 ices for the veteran or member con-
12 cerned as described in clause (i); and

13 “(II) ends on the later of—

14 “(aa) the date on which the
15 sibling ceases acting as the pri-
16 mary provider of personal care
17 services for the veteran or mem-
18 ber as described in clause (i); or

19 “(bb) the date on which it is
20 reasonably feasible, as so deter-
21 mined, for the sibling to initiate
22 or resume the use of benefits.”.

23 (4) by adding at the end the following new sub-
24 section:

1 “(m) DEFINITION OF SIBLING.—In this section, the
2 term ‘sibling’ means a brother or sister, whether by blood,
3 adoption, or through a recognized guardianship or family
4 relationship.”.

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