



VETERANS EDUCATION SUCCESS

SUMMER/FALL 2017

Elevating Veterans' Voices

PUBLIC

After Action Report

Tyson Manker

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Congressman Mike Coffman (CO-6) Thursday, July 6 – Aurora, Colorado



"I deeply appreciate the work of 'Veterans Education Success' and thank them for sharing with me today the obstacles veterans are facing in getting their education. I look forward to working with this organization to help find solutions that will benefit all of our veterans facing similar challenges."

-Rep. Mike Coffman





Education Department Hearing Monday, July 10 – Washington, D.C.

Kevin Thompson: served
in the Navy, attended ITT
Technical Institute

Written testimony [HERE](#)
Video [here](#) and interview [here](#)



(Also, VES' Walter Ochinko testimony [here](#) and video [here](#) at minute 00:00:40)



Education Department Hearing Wednesday, July 12 – Dallas, Texas

Ryan Clark: served in
the Army, Attended
DeVry University

Written testimony [HERE](#)
Video [here](#) at minute 00:29:00



Sean Marvin, VES
Legal Director, Army
Veteran (former JAG)

Written testimony [HERE](#)
Video [here](#) at minute 00:31:33





Congressman Mike Bost (IL-12)

Wednesday, August 2 – O’Fallon, Illinois



"Our nation's greatest asset is our people, and our veterans are the best of the best. It's infuriating to hear stories of our nation's heroes being used as nothing more than 'cash cows' by some unethical education institutions. I have—and will continue—to support policies that crack down on these practices. Moving forward, I will ensure legislation like the Forever GI Bill is implemented properly so our veterans can move from the world's greatest fighting force to the world's greatest workforce with education benefits they can use immediately."

-Rep. Mike Bost





Congressman Bobby Scott (VA-3)

Monday, August 7 – Newport News, Virginia





Senator Jack Reed (RI)
Tuesday, August 15 –
New Haven, Connecticut





Congressman David Young (IA-3)

Thursday, August 17 – Des Moines, Iowa



"There is no greater honor for me than representing and helping those who have served and sacrificed for this great nation. I appreciated hearing the concerns of these Iowans and discussing the important provisions of the new veterans education law I cosponsored and supported, which provides the biggest reform and expansion of the G.I. Bill benefits in over a decade. The 'Harry W. Colmery Veterans Educational Assistance Act of 2017' improves and extends G.I. Bill benefits granted to veterans, their surviving spouses, and dependents. This bipartisan law is budget neutral and includes provisions proposed and prioritized by Veteran Service Organizations in America."

-Rep. David Young





Congressman Mark Takano (CA-41) Tuesday, August 22 – Riverside, California



"America's veterans deserve so much better than to be misled and defrauded by for-profit colleges when they return home. Restoring GI Bill benefits to veterans left stranded by an abrupt school closure is simply the right thing to do, and I'm proud that Congress has finally provided these veterans a second chance at the future they deserve. I hope this is just the beginning of our effort to ensure student veterans are receiving the education they have earned through their service."

-Rep. Mark Takano





Senator Bill Cassidy (LA)

Thursday, August 24 – Lafayette, Louisiana



"Making sure veterans and their families receive the benefits and care they deserve is a top priority. The Veterans Educational Assistance Act, which also expands the Yellow Ribbon Program to the children and spouses of service members who made the ultimate sacrifice, demonstrates our commitment to our veterans and their families."

-Sen. Bill Cassidy





Education Department Hearing

Wednesday, October 4 – Washington, D.C.

Sean Marvin, VES
Legal Director, Army
Veteran (former JAG)

Video testimony [HERE](#)

Tanya Ang, VES
Policy and
Outreach Director

Video testimony [HERE](#) and [HERE](#)





Senator Richard Blumenthal (CT) Friday, October 13 – Hartford, Connecticut



"I was proud to help lead this major bipartisan victory for veterans – ensuring protection and expansion of critical education benefits to reservists, surviving family members, Purple Heart recipients and students defrauded by for-profit-school closures. Veterans have been left high and dry by abrupt school closures and predatory practices, preventing them from completing their degrees and wasting millions of dollars of federal G.I. Bill benefits. This measure is a significant step forward, but hard works remains to ensure veterans' hard-earned right to an education is fully protected."

-Sen. Richard Blumenthal





Congresswoman Suzanne Bonamici (OR-1) Friday, October 27 – Portland, Oregon



"Higher education is a great investment, and I applaud these veterans for pursuing an education with their GI Bill benefits. PCC Rock Creek does an excellent job supporting students who are veterans, and the college has also helped students who have been deceived by for-profit institutions in the past, including former ITT nursing students. Unfortunately, the closures or unscrupulous practices of some for-profit colleges have impeded veterans in achieving their educational goals. As a leader on the Education and the Workforce Committee in Congress, I'll continue working to crack down on deceptive practices and to make sure veterans are supported and treated fairly by all higher education institutions."

-Rep. Suzanne Bonamici





Congresswoman Susan Davis (CA-53)

Monday, October 29 – San Diego, California





“90/10 Rule” Loophole Joint Press Event Thursday, November 9 – Washington, D.C.

Video testimony [HERE](#)

Tanya Ang, VES
Policy and
Outreach Director



Video testimony [HERE](#) and [HERE](#)



PEW “Veterans in Higher-Ed” Panel Thursday, November 9 – Washington, D.C.





Congressman Luke Messer (IN-6) Monday, November 13 – Greenfield, Indiana



"When ITT Tech closed its doors, thousands of veterans were left with no degree or path forward. Our servicemen and women count on those benefits to help them start a career and build a life after serving our country. The least we could do was make sure they got that chance."

-Rep. Luke Messer



Summer/Fall 2017 VES Press Releases

[PRESS RELEASE](#) – Congressman Mike Coffman

[PRESS RELEASE](#) – Congressman Mike Bost

[PRESS RELEASE](#) – Congressman Bobby Scott

[PRESS RELEASE](#) – Congressman David Young

[PRESS RELEASE](#) – Congressman Mark Takano

[PRESS RELEASE](#) – Senator Bill Cassidy

[PRESS RELEASE](#) – Senator Richard Blumenthal

[PRESS RELEASE](#) – Congresswoman Suzanne Bonamici

[PRESS RELEASE](#) – Congressman Luke Messer



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