

Office of the President

December 18, 2012

The Honorable Patty Murray
Chairman, Committee on Veterans' Affairs
U.S. Senate
SR-412 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Richard M. Burr
Ranking Member, Committee on Veterans' Affairs
U.S. Senate
SR-412 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

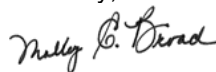
Dear Chairman Murray and Ranking Member Burr:

On behalf of the higher education associations listed below, representing approximately 4,300 two-year and four-year, public and private, non-profit colleges, universities and research institutions, I write to express our strong support for your substitute amendment to H.R. 4057, the Improving Transparency of Education Opportunities for Veterans Act. We understand the Senate may take up and pass the amendment by unanimous consent as early as today.

The substitute amendment to H.R. 4057 directs the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to develop a comprehensive policy to provide important consumer information for veterans using G.I. Bill education benefits. The amendment takes care to ensure that these efforts will complement, rather than duplicate, similar efforts already underway at the Department of Education or at other agencies under Executive Order 13607. We are also pleased by your addition of language in section two designed to protect veterans from fraudulent and unduly aggressive recruiting practices. We strongly support efforts to protect veterans from these practices, which occur at a subset of institutions. Finally, the amendment would require a dedicated point of contact within the Department of Veterans Affairs to provide assistance to school certifying officials, a resource which will be appreciated by campus administrators.

We greatly appreciate your efforts, and those of your staff, to address the issues raised by our member institutions with the earlier House bill. We believe the legislation you have crafted effectively addresses those concerns and will help ensure that veterans have the information and protections they need to make the best use of the generous GI bill educational benefits their service has earned. We thank you for your continuing commitment on behalf of our nation's veterans.

Sincerely,



Molly Corbett Broad
President

American Association of Community Colleges
American Association of State Colleges and Universities
American Council on Education
Association of American Universities
Association of Public and Land-grant Universities
National Association of Independent Colleges and Universities