115TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 4323

To promote veteran involvement in STEM education, computer science, and scientific research, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. DUNN (for himself and Mr. TAKANO) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on _______________________

A BILL

To promote veteran involvement in STEM education, computer science, and scientific research, and for other purposes.

1 Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

2 SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

3 This Act may be cited as the "Supporting Veterans in STEM Careers Act".

4 SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.

5 In this Act:
(1) DIRECTOR.—The term “Director” means the Director of the National Science Foundation.

(2) FOUNDATION.—The term “Foundation” means the National Science Foundation.

(3) STEM.—The term “STEM” has the meaning given the term in section 2 of the America COMPETES Reauthorization Act of 2010 (42 U.S.C. 6621 note).

(4) VETERAN.—The term “veteran” has the meaning given the term in section 101 of title 38, United States Code.

SEC. 3. SUPPORTING VETERANS IN STEM EDUCATION AND COMPUTER SCIENCE.

(a) SUPPORTING VETERAN INVOLVEMENT IN SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH AND STEM EDUCATION.—The Director shall, through the research and education activities of the Foundation, encourage veterans to study and pursue careers in STEM and computer science, in coordination with other Federal agencies that serve veterans.

(b) VETERAN OUTREACH PLAN.—Not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Director shall submit to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the
Senate a plan for how the Foundation can enhance its out-
reach efforts to veterans. Such plan shall—

(1) report on the Foundation’s existing out-
reach activities;

(2) identify the best method for the Foundation
to leverage existing authorities and programs to fa-
cilitate and support veterans in STEM careers and
studies, including teaching programs; and

(3) identify a method for the Foundation to
track veteran participation in research and edu-
cation programs of the Foundation, and describe
any barriers to collecting such information.

(c) NATIONAL SCIENCE BOARD INDICATORS RE-
PORT.—The National Science Board shall provide in its
annual report on indicators of the state of science and en-
gineering in the United States any available and relevant
data on veterans in science and engineering careers or
education programs.

(d) ROBERT NOYCE TEACHER SCHOLARSHIP PRO-
GRAM UPDATE.—Section 10 of the National Science
1) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)(5)—

(A) in subparagraph (A), by striking

“and” at the end;
(B) in subparagraph (B), by striking the period and inserting "; and"; and
(C) by adding at the end the following:
"(C) higher education programs that serve or support veterans.";
(2) in subsection (b)(2)(F)—
(A) by striking "and students" and insert-
ing ", students"; and
(B) by inserting ", and veterans" before
the period at the end;
(3) in subsection (c)(2), by inserting "and vet-
ers" before the period at the end; and
(4) in subsection (d)(2), by inserting "and vet-
ers" before the period at the end.
(e) National Science Foundation Teaching Fellowships and Master Teaching Fellowships Update.—Section 10A(d) of the National Science Found-
1a(d)) is amended—
(1) in paragraph (3)(F)—
(A) by striking "and individuals" and in-
serting ", individuals"; and
(B) by inserting ", and veterans" before
the period at the end; and
in paragraph (4)(B), by inserting “and veterans” before the period at the end.

(f) NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION COMPUTER AND NETWORK SECURITY CAPACITY BUILDING GRANTS UPDATE.—Section 5(a) of the Cyber Security Research and Development Act of 2002 (15 U.S.C. 7404(a)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1), by inserting “and students who are veterans” after “these fields”; and

(2) in paragraph (3)—

(A) in subparagraph (I), by striking “and” at the end;

(B) by redesignating subparagraph (J) as subparagraph (K); and

(C) by inserting after subparagraph (I) the following:

“(J) creating opportunities for veterans to transition to careers in computer and network security; and”.

(g) GRADUATE TRAINEESHIPS IN COMPUTER AND NETWORK SECURITY RESEARCH UPDATE.—Section 5(c)(6)(C) of the Cyber Security Research and Development Act of 2002 (15 U.S.C. 7404(c)(6)(C)) is amended by inserting “or veterans,” after “disciplines”.
(h) VETERANS AND MILITARY FAMILIES STEM EDUCATION INTERAGENCY SUBCOMMITTEE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Director of the Office of Science and Technology Policy shall establish a subcommittee under the Committee on STEM Education of the National Science and Technology Council (established under section 101 of the America COMPETES Reauthorization Act of 2010) to coordinate Federal programs and policies for transitioning and training veterans and military spouses for STEM careers.

(2) DUTIES OF SUBCOMMITTEE.—The subcommittee established under paragraph (1) shall—

(A) coordinate Federal agency STEM outreach activities and programs for veterans and military spouses; and

(B) develop and facilitate the implementation by participating agencies of a strategic plan, which shall—

(i) specify and prioritize short- and long-term objectives;

(ii) specify the common metrics that will be used by Federal agencies to assess progress toward achieving such objectives;
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(iii) identify barriers veterans face in reentering the workforce, including a lack of formal STEM education, career guidance, and the process of transferring military credits and skills to college credits;

(iv) identify barriers military spouses face in establishing careers in STEM fields;

(v) describe the approaches that each participating agency will take to address administratively the barriers described in clauses (iii) and (iv); and

(vi) identify any barriers that require Federal or State legislative or regulatory changes in order to be addressed.

(3) DUTIES OF OSTP.—The Director of the Office of Science and Technology Policy shall encourage and monitor the efforts of the Federal agencies participating in the subcommittee to ensure that the strategic plan required under paragraph (2)(B) is developed and executed effectively and that the objectives of such strategic plan are met.

(4) REPORT.—The Director of the Office of Science and Technology Policy shall—
(A) not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, submit to Congress the strategic plan required under paragraph (2)(B); and

(B) include in the annual report required by section 101(d) of the America COMPETES Reauthorization Act a description of any progress made in carrying out the activities described in paragraph (2)(B) of this subsection.