

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Veterans Education Project Applauds Senate Introduction of S. 649: Every Day in Uniform Counts Act

Washington, D.C. – The Veterans Education Project (VEP) proudly supports the introduction of **S. 649, the Every Day in Uniform Counts Act**, introduced by Senator Jerry Moran (R-KS) alongside Senator Richard Blumenthal (D-CT) and Senator Tammy Baldwin (D-WI). This critical legislation mirrors H.R. 1423 in ensuring that **National Guard and Reserve members receive equitable Post-9/11 GI Bill benefits** for their service, addressing a long-standing gap in benefit eligibility.

“Every day in uniform should count toward education benefits,” said Donald Franklin, Executive Director of the Veterans Education Project. “National Guard members serve, sacrifice, and train just like their Active Duty and Reserve counterparts. It’s time our laws reflect that reality and provide them with the same access to the Post-9/11 GI Bill.”

The issue stems from outdated interpretations of Title 38, U.S. Code, which have historically excluded certain National Guard duty statuses from counting toward GI Bill eligibility. Despite a 2016 policy change that extended some benefits to Reservists, National Guard members remain disadvantaged. H.R. 1423 corrects this oversight by ensuring that duty under Title 32—including Active Duty for Training (ADT), Active Duty Special Work (ADSW), and Full-time National Guard Duty—qualifies for GI Bill benefits.

The Veterans Education Project urges Congress to swiftly pass this legislation and provide National Guard members with the benefits they deserve. “This is about fairness,” added Franklin. “We look forward to working with Representative Levin and other lawmakers to make sure that no service member is left behind.”

With bipartisan backing, S. 649 reflects a growing consensus in Congress: that fairness for the National Guard is not a partisan issue, but a matter of principle.

About the Veterans Education Project

The Veterans Education Project (VEP) is a nonpartisan advocacy organization dedicated to ensuring that veterans, service members, and their families receive fair and equitable access to education benefits. VEP works with policymakers, educators, and veteran communities to advance legislation that protects and expands opportunities for those who have served.

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