

HR 3218

Harry W. Colmery Veterans Educational Assistance Act of 2017

Congress: 115 (2017–2019, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Armed Forces and National Security

Introduced: Jul 13, 2017

Current Status: Became Public Law No: 115-48.

Latest Action: Became Public Law No: 115-48. (Aug 16, 2017)

Law: 115-48 (Enacted Aug 16, 2017)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/house-bill/3218>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Roe, David P. [R-TN-1]

Party: Republican • **State:** TN • **Chamber:** House

Cosponsors (121 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Del. Radewagen, Aumua Amata Coleman [R-AS-At Large]	R · AS		Jul 13, 2017
Del. Sablan, Gregorio Kilili Camacho [D-MP-At Large]	D · MP		Jul 13, 2017
Rep. Arrington, Jodey C. [R-TX-19]	R · TX		Jul 13, 2017
Rep. Banks, Jim [R-IN-3]	R · IN		Jul 13, 2017
Rep. Bergman, Jack [R-MI-1]	R · MI		Jul 13, 2017
Rep. Bilirakis, Gus M. [R-FL-12]	R · FL		Jul 13, 2017
Rep. Bishop, Mike [R-MI-8]	R · MI		Jul 13, 2017
Rep. Bishop, Sanford D., Jr. [D-GA-2]	D · GA		Jul 13, 2017
Rep. Bost, Mike [R-IL-12]	R · IL		Jul 13, 2017
Rep. Brooks, Susan W. [R-IN-5]	R · IN		Jul 13, 2017
Rep. Brown, Anthony G. [D-MD-4]	D · MD		Jul 13, 2017
Rep. Brownley, Julia [D-CA-26]	D · CA		Jul 13, 2017
Rep. Butterfield, G. K. [D-NC-1]	D · NC		Jul 13, 2017
Rep. Carbajal, Salud O. [D-CA-24]	D · CA		Jul 13, 2017
Rep. Coffman, Mike [R-CO-6]	R · CO		Jul 13, 2017
Rep. Cook, Paul [R-CA-8]	R · CA		Jul 13, 2017
Rep. Correa, J. Luis [D-CA-46]	D · CA		Jul 13, 2017
Rep. Costello, Ryan A. [R-PA-6]	R · PA		Jul 13, 2017
Rep. Courtney, Joe [D-CT-2]	D · CT		Jul 13, 2017
Rep. Davis, Susan A. [D-CA-53]	D · CA		Jul 13, 2017
Rep. DeFazio, Peter A. [D-OR-4]	D · OR		Jul 13, 2017
Rep. Dunn, Neal P. [R-FL-2]	R · FL		Jul 13, 2017
Rep. Esty, Elizabeth H. [D-CT-5]	D · CT		Jul 13, 2017
Rep. Fitzpatrick, Brian K. [R-PA-8]	R · PA		Jul 13, 2017
Rep. Gabbard, Tulsi [D-HI-2]	D · HI		Jul 13, 2017
Rep. Higgins, Clay [R-LA-3]	R · LA		Jul 13, 2017
Rep. Kuster, Ann M. [D-NH-2]	D · NH		Jul 13, 2017
Rep. Labrador, Raul R. [R-ID-1]	R · ID		Jul 13, 2017
Rep. McCarthy, Kevin [R-CA-23]	R · CA		Jul 13, 2017
Rep. McKinley, David B. [R-WV-1]	R · WV		Jul 13, 2017
Rep. Messer, Luke [R-IN-6]	R · IN		Jul 13, 2017
Rep. Moulton, Seth [D-MA-6]	D · MA		Jul 13, 2017
Rep. Mullin, Markwayne [R-OK-2]	R · OK		Jul 13, 2017
Rep. O'Rourke, Beto [D-TX-16]	D · TX		Jul 13, 2017
Rep. Palazzo, Steven M. [R-MS-4]	R · MS		Jul 13, 2017
Rep. Panetta, Jimmy [D-CA-20]	D · CA		Jul 13, 2017
Rep. Peters, Scott H. [D-CA-52]	D · CA		Jul 13, 2017
Rep. Peterson, Collin C. [D-MN-7]	D · MN		Jul 13, 2017
Rep. Poliquin, Bruce [R-ME-2]	R · ME		Jul 13, 2017
Rep. Rice, Kathleen M. [D-NY-4]	D · NY		Jul 13, 2017
Rep. Richmond, Cedric L. [D-LA-2]	D · LA		Jul 13, 2017

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Rosen, Jacky [D-NV-3]	D · NV		Jul 13, 2017
Rep. Rush, Bobby L. [D-IL-1]	D · IL		Jul 13, 2017
Rep. Rutherford, John H. [R-FL-4]	R · FL		Jul 13, 2017
Rep. Ryan, Tim [D-OH-13]	D · OH		Jul 13, 2017
Rep. Scott, Robert C. "Bobby" [D-VA-3]	D · VA		Jul 13, 2017
Rep. Shea-Porter, Carol [D-NH-1]	D · NH		Jul 13, 2017
Rep. Sinema, Kyrsten [D-AZ-9]	D · AZ		Jul 13, 2017
Rep. Smucker, Lloyd [R-PA-16]	R · PA		Jul 13, 2017
Rep. Takano, Mark [D-CA-41]	D · CA		Jul 13, 2017
Rep. Thompson, Mike [D-CA-5]	D · CA		Jul 13, 2017
Rep. Titus, Dina [D-NV-1]	D · NV		Jul 13, 2017
Rep. Walberg, Tim [R-MI-7]	R · MI		Jul 13, 2017
Rep. Walz, Timothy J. [D-MN-1]	D · MN		Jul 13, 2017
Rep. Wasserman Schultz, Debbie [D-FL-23]	D · FL		Jul 13, 2017
Rep. Wenstrup, Brad R. [R-OH-2]	R · OH		Jul 13, 2017
Resident Commissioner González-Colón, Jenniffer [R-PR-At Large]	R · PR		Jul 13, 2017
Rep. Walorski, Jackie [R-IN-2]	R · IN		Jul 14, 2017
Rep. Velazquez, Nydia M. [D-NY-7]	D · NY		Jul 17, 2017
Rep. Young, David [R-IA-3]	R · IA		Jul 17, 2017
Rep. Brady, Robert A. [D-PA-1]	D · PA		Jul 18, 2017
Rep. Bustos, Cheri [D-IL-17]	D · IL		Jul 18, 2017
Rep. Carson, Andre [D-IN-7]	D · IN		Jul 18, 2017
Rep. DeGette, Diana [D-CO-1]	D · CO		Jul 18, 2017
Rep. Jayapal, Pramila [D-WA-7]	D · WA		Jul 18, 2017
Rep. O'Halleran, Tom [D-AZ-1]	D · AZ		Jul 18, 2017
Rep. Pascrell, Bill, Jr. [D-NJ-9]	D · NJ		Jul 18, 2017
Rep. Polis, Jared [D-CO-2]	D · CO		Jul 18, 2017
Rep. Sherman, Brad [D-CA-30]	D · CA		Jul 18, 2017
Rep. Suozzi, Thomas R. [D-NY-3]	D · NY		Jul 18, 2017
Rep. Tsongas, Niki [D-MA-3]	D · MA		Jul 18, 2017
Rep. Vargas, Juan [D-CA-51]	D · CA		Jul 18, 2017
Rep. Wittman, Robert J. [R-VA-1]	R · VA		Jul 18, 2017
Rep. Beatty, Joyce [D-OH-3]	D · OH		Jul 19, 2017
Rep. Cicilline, David N. [D-RI-1]	D · RI		Jul 19, 2017
Rep. Eshoo, Anna G. [D-CA-18]	D · CA		Jul 19, 2017
Rep. Heck, Denny [D-WA-10]	D · WA		Jul 19, 2017
Rep. Kind, Ron [D-WI-3]	D · WI		Jul 19, 2017
Rep. King, Peter T. [R-NY-2]	R · NY		Jul 19, 2017
Rep. Lipinski, Daniel [D-IL-3]	D · IL		Jul 19, 2017
Rep. Lowenthal, Alan S. [D-CA-47]	D · CA		Jul 19, 2017
Rep. Murphy, Stephanie N. [D-FL-7]	D · FL		Jul 19, 2017
Rep. Pelosi, Nancy [D-CA-12]	D · CA		Jul 19, 2017

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Perlmutter, Ed [D-CO-7]	D · CO		Jul 19, 2017
Rep. Zeldin, Lee M. [R-NY-1]	R · NY		Jul 19, 2017
Del. Bordallo, Madeleine Z. [D-GU-At Large]	D · GU		Jul 20, 2017
Del. Norton, Eleanor Holmes [D-DC-At Large]	D · DC		Jul 20, 2017
Rep. Castor, Kathy [D-FL-14]	D · FL		Jul 20, 2017
Rep. Castro, Joaquin [D-TX-20]	D · TX		Jul 20, 2017
Rep. Costa, Jim [D-CA-16]	D · CA		Jul 20, 2017
Rep. Cuellar, Henry [D-TX-28]	D · TX		Jul 20, 2017
Rep. Dingell, Debbie [D-MI-12]	D · MI		Jul 20, 2017
Rep. Higgins, Brian [D-NY-26]	D · NY		Jul 20, 2017
Rep. Hurd, Will [R-TX-23]	R · TX		Jul 20, 2017
Rep. Issa, Darrell E. [R-CA-49]	R · CA		Jul 20, 2017
Rep. Khanna, Ro [D-CA-17]	D · CA		Jul 20, 2017
Rep. Kilmer, Derek [D-WA-6]	D · WA		Jul 20, 2017
Rep. Krishnamoorthi, Raja [D-IL-8]	D · IL		Jul 20, 2017
Rep. Lujan Grisham, Michelle [D-NM-1]	D · NM		Jul 20, 2017
Rep. Matsui, Doris O. [D-CA-6]	D · CA		Jul 20, 2017
Rep. Nadler, Jerrold [D-NY-10]	D · NY		Jul 20, 2017
Rep. Napolitano, Grace F. [D-CA-32]	D · CA		Jul 20, 2017
Rep. Raskin, Jamie [D-MD-8]	D · MD		Jul 20, 2017
Rep. Schneider, Bradley Scott [D-IL-10]	D · IL		Jul 20, 2017
Rep. Slaughter, Louise McIntosh [D-NY-25]	D · NY		Jul 20, 2017
Rep. Veasey, Marc A. [D-TX-33]	D · TX		Jul 20, 2017
Rep. Bera, Ami [D-CA-7]	D · CA		Jul 24, 2017
Rep. Beyer, Donald S., Jr. [D-VA-8]	D · VA		Jul 24, 2017
Rep. Boyle, Brendan F. [D-PA-13]	D · PA		Jul 24, 2017
Rep. Calvert, Ken [R-CA-42]	R · CA		Jul 24, 2017
Rep. Demings, Val Butler [D-FL-10]	D · FL		Jul 24, 2017
Rep. Ellison, Keith [D-MN-5]	D · MN		Jul 24, 2017
Rep. Gottheimer, Josh [D-NJ-5]	D · NJ		Jul 24, 2017
Rep. Green, Gene [D-TX-29]	D · TX		Jul 24, 2017
Rep. Grijalva, Raúl M. [D-AZ-3]	D · AZ		Jul 24, 2017
Rep. Hanabusa, Colleen [D-HI-1]	D · HI		Jul 24, 2017
Rep. Kildee, Daniel T. [D-MI-5]	D · MI		Jul 24, 2017
Rep. Posey, Bill [R-FL-8]	R · FL		Jul 24, 2017
Rep. Schrader, Kurt [D-OR-5]	D · OR		Jul 24, 2017
Rep. Smith, Christopher H. [R-NJ-4]	R · NJ		Jul 24, 2017
Rep. Yarmuth, John A. [D-KY-3]	D · KY		Jul 24, 2017

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Armed Services Committee	House	Referred to	Jul 26, 2017
Veterans' Affairs Committee	House	Referred to	Jul 13, 2017

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Armed Forces and National Security

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
115 S 1598	Related bill	Aug 2, 2017: Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 200.
115 HR 3370	Related bill	Jul 24, 2017: Referred to the Subcommittee on Economic Opportunity.
115 HR 3372	Related bill	Jul 24, 2017: Referred to the Subcommittee on Economic Opportunity.
115 S 1555	Related bill	Jul 13, 2017: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.
115 HR 3205	Related bill	Jul 12, 2017: Referred to the Subcommittee on Economic Opportunity.
115 S 410	Related bill	Jun 15, 2017: Committee on Veterans' Affairs. Hearings held. Hearings printed: S.Hrg. 115-215.
115 S 1192	Related bill	Jun 15, 2017: Committee on Veterans' Affairs. Hearings held. Hearings printed: S.Hrg. 115-215.
115 S 1362	Related bill	Jun 15, 2017: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.
115 HR 2257	Related bill	Apr 28, 2017: Referred to the Subcommittee on Economic Opportunity.
115 HR 2108	Related bill	Apr 20, 2017: Referred to the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs.
115 HR 2099	Related bill	Apr 14, 2017: Referred to the Subcommittee on Economic Opportunity.
115 HR 1994	Related bill	Apr 7, 2017: Referred to the Subcommittee on Economic Opportunity.
115 HR 1956	Related bill	Apr 6, 2017: Referred to the Subcommittee on Economic Opportunity.
115 HR 1391	Related bill	Mar 27, 2017: Referred to the Subcommittee on Economic Opportunity.
115 HR 925	Related bill	Mar 3, 2017: Referred to the Subcommittee on Economic Opportunity.
115 HR 1104	Related bill	Mar 3, 2017: Referred to the Subcommittee on Economic Opportunity.
115 HR 1112	Related bill	Mar 3, 2017: Referred to the Subcommittee on Economic Opportunity.
115 HR 245	Related bill	Jan 19, 2017: Referred to the Subcommittee on Economic Opportunity.

Harry W. Colmery Veterans Educational Assistance Act of 2017

This bill revises education and related benefits provided to veterans, service members, dependents, and survivors.

The bill amends the Post-9/11 veterans' educational assistance program to:

- remove certain time restrictions on program use;
- increase assistance for reservists, guardsmen, dependents, and surviving spouses and dependents;
- provide full eligibility for Post-9/11 Purple Heart recipients and certain reservists and guardsmen;
- provide an extra academic years' worth of benefits for STEM (science, technology, engineering, or mathematics) degree candidates;
- establish a five-year pilot program for high technology courses;
- restore eligibility for service members whose school closes in the middle of a semester;
- authorize funding to improve claims processing;
- permit assistance to be used at certain institutions that are not institutions of higher education; and
- pro-rate the housing stipend for reservists called to active duty.

The bill authorizes the Edith Nurse Rogers STEM Scholarship to help veterans complete STEM degrees.

The Yellow Ribbon program is extended to Fry Scholarship recipients (surviving dependents of service members who died on active duty) and certain Purple Heart recipients. (The Yellow Ribbon program helps veterans pay for higher education tuition and fee costs not covered by the Post-9/11 program.)

The bill: (1) extends the Advisory Committee on Education, (2) increases survivors' and dependents' educational assistance, and (3) extends funding for state educational program approving agencies.

The bill provides statutory authority for the VetSuccess on Campus program, which provides veterans with on-campus educational and vocational counseling.

The Department of Veterans Affairs shall make a new determination regarding each denied veteran's claim for disability compensation in connection with full-body exposure to mustard gas or Lewisite at specified locations during World War II and resolve reasonable doubt in favor of the veteran.

For more detailed information, see [Congressional Research Service Report R45205, Harry W. Colmery Veterans Educational Assistance Act of 2017 \(P.L. 115-48\)](#).

Actions Timeline

- **Aug 16, 2017:** Signed by President.
- **Aug 16, 2017:** Became Public Law No: 115-48.
- **Aug 7, 2017:** Presented to President.
- **Aug 3, 2017:** Message on Senate action sent to the House.
- **Aug 2, 2017:** Passed/agreed to in Senate: Passed Senate without amendment by Unanimous Consent.(consideration: CR S4716)
- **Aug 2, 2017:** Passed Senate without amendment by Unanimous Consent. (consideration: CR S4716)
- **Jul 26, 2017:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Military Personnel.
- **Jul 25, 2017:** Received in the Senate, read twice.
- **Jul 24, 2017:** Reported (Amended) by the Committee on Veterans' Affairs. H. Rept. 115-247, Part I.
- **Jul 24, 2017:** Committee on Armed Services discharged.
- **Jul 24, 2017:** Placed on the Union Calendar, Calendar No. 179.
- **Jul 24, 2017:** Mr. Roe (TN) moved to suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended.
- **Jul 24, 2017:** Considered under suspension of the rules. (consideration: CR H6158-6170)
- **Jul 24, 2017:** DEBATE - The House proceeded with forty minutes of debate on H.R. 3218.
- **Jul 24, 2017:** At the conclusion of debate, the Yeas and Nays were demanded and ordered. Pursuant to the provisions of clause 8, rule XX, the Chair announced that further proceedings on the motion would be postponed.
- **Jul 24, 2017:** Considered as unfinished business. (consideration: CR H6197-6198)
- **Jul 24, 2017:** Passed/agreed to in House: On motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended Agreed to by the Yeas and Nays: (2/3 required): 405 - 0 (Roll no. 409).(text: CR H6158-6165)
- **Jul 24, 2017:** On motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended Agreed to by the Yeas and Nays: (2/3 required): 405 - 0 (Roll no. 409). (text: CR H6158-6165)
- **Jul 24, 2017:** Motion to reconsider laid on the table Agreed to without objection.
- **Jul 19, 2017:** Committee Consideration and Mark-up Session Held.
- **Jul 19, 2017:** Ordered to be Reported (Amended) by Voice Vote.
- **Jul 17, 2017:** Committee Hearings Held.
- **Jul 13, 2017:** Introduced in House
- **Jul 13, 2017:** Referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs, and in addition to the Committee on Armed Services, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.
- **Jul 13, 2017:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Economic Opportunity.