

S 3257

Sgt. Isaac Woodard, Jr. and Sgt. Joseph H. Maddox GI Bill Restoration Act of 2023

Congress: 118 (2023–2025, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Armed Forces and National Security

Introduced: Nov 8, 2023

Current Status: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

Latest Action: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs. (Nov 8, 2023)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/118th-congress/senate-bill/3257>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Warnock, Raphael G. [D-GA]

Party: Democratic • State: GA • Chamber: Senate

Cosponsors (6 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Blumenthal, Richard [D-CT]	D · CT		Nov 8, 2023
Sen. Booker, Cory A. [D-NJ]	D · NJ		Nov 8, 2023
Sen. Durbin, Richard J. [D-IL]	D · IL		Nov 8, 2023
Sen. Murray, Patty [D-WA]	D · WA		Nov 8, 2023
Sen. Wyden, Ron [D-OR]	D · OR		Nov 8, 2023
Sen. Butler, Laphonza R. [D-CA]	D · CA		Feb 27, 2024

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Veterans' Affairs Committee	Senate	Referred To	Nov 8, 2023

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Armed Forces and National Security

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
118 HR 1255	Related bill	Mar 23, 2023: Referred to the Subcommittee on Economic Opportunity.

## **Sgt. Isaac Woodard, Jr. and Sgt. Joseph H. Maddox GI Bill Restoration Act of 2023**

This bill expands eligibility for Post-9/11 GI bill benefits and the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) home loan program by updating terminology related to certain Black veterans. Specifically, the bill explicitly includes the following individuals as eligible veterans under the programs:

- Black veterans who served on active duty during World War II and can certify they were denied a specific benefit on the basis of race; and
- the living surviving spouses, children, grandchildren, or other direct descendants of such veterans described above who can certify the veteran was denied a specific benefit on the basis of race.

Eligible veterans must apply for educational or home loan benefits within the five-year period after the bill is enacted.

The Government Accountability Office must report on the number of individuals who received VA educational or housing loan benefits due to the amendments made by the bill and the total value of such benefits.

Finally, the VA must appoint a panel of independent experts to develop recommendations regarding additional benefits and assistance for female and minority members of the Armed Forces.

### **Actions Timeline**

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- **Nov 8, 2023:** Introduced in Senate
- **Nov 8, 2023:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.