

**AMENDMENT TO H.R. 5136, AS REPORTED  
OFFERED BY MS. MARKEY OF COLORADO**

Page 258, after line 12, insert the following:

1   **SEC. 674. SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM FOR VETERANS FOR**  
2                   **PURSUIT OF GRADUATE AND POST-GRAD-**  
3                   **UATE DEGREES IN BEHAVIORAL HEALTH**  
4                   **SCIENCES.**

5       (a) SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM.—

6           (1) PROGRAM.—The Secretary of Veterans Af-  
7       fairs shall carry out a program to provide scholar-  
8       ships to qualifying veterans for pursuit of a grad-  
9       uate or post-graduate degree in behavioral health  
10      sciences.

11          (2) DESIGNATION.—The program carried out  
12      under this section shall be known as the “Depart-  
13      ment of Veterans Affairs HONOR Scholarship Pro-  
14      gram” (in this section referred to as the “scholar-  
15      ship program”).

16      (b) QUALIFYING VETERANS.—For purposes of this  
17      section, a qualifying veteran is any veteran who—

18          (1) during service on active duty in the Armed  
19      Forces, participated for such period as the Secretary  
20      of Veterans Affairs, in consultation with the Sec-

1       retary of Defense, shall specify for purposes of the  
2       scholarship program in a theater of combat or dur-  
3       ing a contingency operation overseas;

4           (2) was retired, discharged, separated, or re-  
5       leased from service in the Armed Forces on or after  
6       a date (not earlier than August 2, 1990) specified  
7       by the Secretary of Defense for purposes of the  
8       scholarship program;

9           (3) at the time of the submittal of an applica-  
10      tion to participate in the scholarship program, holds  
11      an undergraduate or graduate degree, as applicable,  
12      from an institution of higher education that qualifies  
13      the veteran for pursuit of a graduate or post-grad-  
14      uate degree in behavioral sciences; and

15           (4) meets such other qualifications as the Sec-  
16      retary of Veterans Affairs may establish for pur-  
17      poses of the scholarship program.

18      (c) APPLICATION.—Each qualifying veteran seeking  
19      to participate in the scholarship program shall submit to  
20      the Secretary of Veterans Affairs an application therefor  
21      setting forth such information as the Secretary shall speci-  
22      fy for purposes of the scholarship program.

23      (d) AGREEMENT.—Each qualifying veteran selected  
24      by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs for participation in  
25      the scholarship program shall enter into an agreement

1 with the Secretary regarding participation in the scholar-  
2 ship program. The agreement shall contain such terms  
3 and conditions as the Secretary shall specify for purposes  
4 of the scholarship program.

5 (e) SCHOLARSHIPS.—

6 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Veterans  
7 Affairs shall provide to each qualifying veteran who  
8 enters into an agreement under subsection (d) a  
9 scholarship for such number of academic years as  
10 the Secretary shall specify in the agreement for pur-  
11 suit of a graduate or post-graduate degree in behav-  
12 ioral health sciences at an institution of higher edu-  
13 cation offering such degree that is approved by the  
14 Secretary for purposes of the scholarship program.

15 (2) ELEMENTS.—The scholarship provided a  
16 qualifying veteran for an academic year shall consist  
17 of payment of the following:

18 (A) Tuition of the qualifying veteran for  
19 pursuit of the graduate or post-graduate degree  
20 concerned in the academic year.

21 (B) Reasonable educational expenses of the  
22 qualifying veteran (including fees, books, and  
23 laboratory expenses) in pursuit of such degree  
24 in the academic year.

1 (C) A stipend in connection with the pur-  
2 suit of such degree in the academic year in such  
3 amount as the Secretary shall specify in the  
4 agreement of the qualifying veteran under sub-  
5 section (d).

6 (f) OBLIGATED SERVICE.—Each qualifying veteran  
7 who participates in the scholarship program shall, after  
8 completion of the graduate or post-graduate degree con-  
9 cerned and as jointly provided by the Secretary of Vet-  
10 erans Affairs and the Secretary of Defense in the agree-  
11 ment of such qualifying veteran under subsection (d), per-  
12 form service as follows:

13 (1) Such service for the Department of Vet-  
14 erans Affairs in connection with the furnishing of  
15 mental health services to veterans, and for such pe-  
16 riod, as the Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall  
17 specify in the agreement.

18 (2) Such service for the Department of Defense  
19 in connection with the furnishing of mental health  
20 services to members of the Armed Forces, and for  
21 such period, as the Secretary of Veterans Affairs  
22 shall, in consultation with the Secretary of Defense,  
23 specify in the agreement.

24 (3) Such combination of service described by  
25 paragraphs (1) and (2), and for such period, as the

1 Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall, in consultation  
2 with the Secretary of Defense, specify in the agree-  
3 ment.

4 (g) BREACH OF AGREEMENT.—Each qualifying vet-  
5 eran participating in the scholarship who fails to complete  
6 satisfactorily the terms of the agreement of such quali-  
7 fying veteran under subsection (d), whether through fail-  
8 ure to obtain the graduate or post-graduate degree con-  
9 cerned or failure to perform service required of the quali-  
10 fying veteran under subsection (f), shall be liable to the  
11 United States in such form and manner as the Secretary  
12 of Veterans Affairs shall, in consultation with the Sec-  
13 retary of Defense, specify in the agreement.

14 (h) CONTINGENCY OPERATION DEFINED.—In this  
15 section, the term “contingency operation” has the mean-  
16 ing given that term in section 101(a)(13) of title 10,  
17 United States Code.

