

RESOLUTION 11-08

SOURCE: AMVETS National Headquarters, AK, AZ, DC, DE, FL, IL, KY, ME, MD, MA, MI, MN, NE, NJ, NC, ND, OH, OR, PA, TX, WA, WI

SUBJECT: Accelerated GI Benefits for Training Programs

WHEREAS, GI Bill benefits are paid as a monthly stipend to a maximum amount of \$1,000; and

WHEREAS, many training programs run anywhere from 4 to 6 weeks, and can cost upwards of \$6,000; and

WHEREAS, at most, the GI Bill benefit only offsets about \$1,500 of the veterans' training tuition; and

WHEREAS, accelerated benefits would cover upwards of 60% of the cost of training program; and

WHEREAS, current law only allows certain "high tech" training programs, as determined by the Secretary of Labor, to receive accelerated benefits; and

WHEREAS, veterans between the ages of 20 and 24 have an unemployment rate nearly double the national rate of non-veterans in the same age group: now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That AMVETS supports legislation that would expand and enhance GI Bill educational benefits for eligible veterans wanting to use tuition assistance for training programs; and be it further

RESOLVED, That AMVETS recognize that accelerating GI Bill benefits for training in high-growth and high-tech occupations would help place veterans in a good paying, long-term, and secure job.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS:

VAVS & VA HOSPITAL AND MEDICAL SERVICES, REHABILITATION:
ADOPTED p ADOPTED (as amended) p REJECTED p DEFERREDp

FLOOR ACTION: ADOPTED p ADOPTED (as amended) p REJECTED p DEFERRED p