

Resolution No. 625

A GI BILL FOR THE 21st CENTURY

WHEREAS, the original GI Bill is recognized as one of the most profound pieces of legislation enacted by Congress during the last century, and has enabled millions of America's veterans, who otherwise might not have been able to afford an education, to attend college or receive vocational training; and

WHEREAS, the current Montgomery GI Bill has not kept pace with the rising cost of higher education, even with recently approved increases; and

WHEREAS, the Montgomery GI Bill benefit provided to reservists and to members of the National Guard has lagged even further behind the active-duty benefit; and

WHEREAS, the Montgomery GI Bill is an invaluable tool for recruitment and retention of high-quality recruits to not just join, but to stay with the military, directly improving this nation's security; and

WHEREAS, the Montgomery GI Bill benefits all of society, allowing veterans to become the leaders of tomorrow in the public and private sectors, enhancing social mobility by allowing those who otherwise could not afford college an opportunity to educate themselves, and by returning tax revenue, from increased incomes, above and beyond what the program costs; now; therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, that we urge Congress to enact a new GI Bill for the 21st Century, which would provide an educational benefit that covers the cost of tuition, fees, books and related expenses along with a stipend to cover housing expenses at the university or college of the veteran's choice.

Submitted by Commander-in-Chief
To Committee on VETERANS SERVICE RESOLUTIONS

The intent of this resolution is:

To support a new GI Bill for the 21st Century.

APPROVED by the 107th National Convention of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States.