

105TH CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

S. 2115

To amend title 38, United States Code, to establish a scholarship program and an education loan debt reduction program to facilitate the employment of primary care and other health care professionals by the Veterans Health Administration, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MAY 22, 1998

Mr. ROCKEFELLER (for himself and Ms. MIKULSKI) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs

A BILL

To amend title 38, United States Code, to establish a scholarship program and an education loan debt reduction program to facilitate the employment of primary care and other health care professionals by the Veterans Health Administration, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Department of Veter-
5 ans Affairs Primary Care Providers Incentive Act of
6 1998”.

1 **SEC. 2. SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM FOR DEPARTMENT OF**
2 **VETERANS AFFAIRS EMPLOYEES RECEIVING**
3 **EDUCATION OR TRAINING IN THE HEALTH**
4 **PROFESSIONS.**

5 (a) PROGRAM AUTHORITY.—(1) Chapter 76 of title
6 38, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end
7 the following new subchapter:

8 “SUBCHAPTER VI—EMPLOYEE INCENTIVE
9 SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

10 **“§ 7671. Authority for program**

11 “As part of the Educational Assistance Program, the
12 Secretary shall carry out a scholarship program under this
13 subchapter. The program shall be known as the Depart-
14 ment of Veterans Affairs Employee Incentive Scholarship
15 Program (hereinafter in this subchapter referred to as the
16 ‘Program’).

17 **“§ 7672. Eligibility; agreement**

18 “(a) ELIGIBILITY.—To be eligible to participate in
19 the Program, an individual—

20 “(1) must be an eligible Department employee
21 who is accepted for enrollment or enrolled (as de-
22 scribed in section 7602 of this title) as a full-time
23 or part-time student in a field of education or train-
24 ing described in subsection (c); and

25 “(2) must demonstrate financial need, as deter-
26 mined under regulations prescribed by the Secretary.

1 “(b) ELIGIBLE DEPARTMENT EMPLOYEES.—For
2 purposes of subsection (a), an eligible Department em-
3 ployee is any employee of the Department who, as of the
4 date on which the employee submits an application for
5 participation in the Program, has been continuously em-
6 ployed by the Department for not less than two years.

7 “(c) QUALIFYING FIELDS OF EDUCATION OR TRAIN-
8 ING.—A scholarship may be awarded under the Program
9 only for education and training in a field leading to ap-
10 pointment or retention in a position under section 7401
11 of this title.

12 “(d) PREFERENCE IN AWARD OF SCHOLARSHIPS.—
13 (1) Notwithstanding section 7603(d) of this title and sub-
14 ject to paragraph (2), in selecting participants in the Pro-
15 gram, the Secretary shall give preference to the following
16 applicants, in the order specified:

17 “(A) Applicants who are or will be pursuing a
18 course of education or training in a field relating to
19 the provision of primary care health services, as des-
20 ignated by the Secretary.

21 “(B) Applicants who are employed at Depart-
22 ment health-care facilities located in rural areas or
23 at which there is an inadequate supply of individuals
24 qualified to hold a position under section 7401 of
25 this title, as so designated.

1 “(2) In the case of a pool of applicants covered by
2 subparagraph (A) or (B) of paragraph (1), the Secretary
3 shall give preference in the award of scholarships to the
4 members of the pool who have the greatest financial need.

5 “(3) The Secretary shall maintain, and update peri-
6 odically, a list setting forth—

7 “(A) the fields of education or training covered
8 by subparagraph (A) of paragraph (1); and

9 “(B) the facilities covered by subparagraph (B)
10 of that paragraph.

11 “(e) AGREEMENT.—(1) An agreement between the
12 Secretary and a participant in the Program shall (in addi-
13 tion to the requirements set forth in section 7604 of this
14 title) include the following:

15 “(A) The Secretary’s agreement to provide the
16 participant with a scholarship under the Program
17 for a specified number (from one to three) of school
18 years during which the participant pursues a course
19 of education or training described in subsection (c)
20 that meets the requirements set forth in section
21 7602(a) of this title.

22 “(B) The participant’s agreement to serve as a
23 full-time employee in the Veterans Health Adminis-
24 tration for a period of time (hereinafter in this sub-
25 chapter referred to as the ‘period of obligated serv-

1 ice') of one calendar year for each school year or
2 part thereof for which the participant was provided
3 a scholarship under the Program, but for not less
4 than two years.

5 “(C) The participant’s agreement to serve
6 under subparagraph (B) in a Department facility se-
7 lected by the Secretary.

8 “(2) In a case in which an extension is granted under
9 section 7673(c)(2) of this title, the number of years for
10 which a scholarship may be provided under the Program
11 shall be the number of school years provided for as a result
12 of the extension.

13 “(3) In the case of a participant who is a part-time
14 student—

15 “(A) the period of obligated service shall be re-
16 duced in accordance with the proportion that the
17 number of credit hours carried by such participant
18 in any such school year bears to the number of cred-
19 it hours required to be carried by a full-time student
20 in the course of training being pursued by the par-
21 ticipant, but in no event to less than one year; and

22 “(B) the agreement shall include the partici-
23 pant’s agreement to maintain employment, while en-
24 rolled in such course of education or training, as a

1 Department employee permanently assigned to a De-
2 partment health-care facility.

3 **“§ 7673. Scholarship**

4 “(a) SCHOLARSHIP.—A scholarship provided to a
5 participant in the Program for a school year shall consist
6 of payment of the tuition of the participant for that school
7 year and payment of other reasonable educational ex-
8 penses (including fees, books, and laboratory expenses) for
9 that school year.

10 “(b) AMOUNTS.—The total amount of the scholarship
11 payable under subsection (a)—

12 “(1) in the case of a participant in the Program
13 who is a full-time student, may not exceed \$10,000
14 for any one year; and

15 “(2) in the case of a participant in the Program
16 who is a part-time student, shall be the amount
17 specified in paragraph (1) reduced in accordance
18 with the proportion that the number of credit hours
19 carried by the participant in that school year bears
20 to the number of credit hours required to be carried
21 by a full-time student in the course of education or
22 training being pursued by the participant.

23 “(c) LIMITATION ON YEARS OF PAYMENT.—(1) Sub-
24 ject to paragraph (2), a participant in the Program may

1 not receive a scholarship under subsection (a) for more
2 than three school years.

3 “(2) The Secretary may extend the number of school
4 years for which a scholarship may be awarded to a partici-
5 pant in the Program who is a part-time student to a maxi-
6 mum of six school years if the Secretary determines that
7 the extension would be in the best interest of the United
8 States.

9 “(d) PAYMENT OF EDUCATIONAL EXPENSES BY
10 EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS.—The Secretary may ar-
11 range with an educational institution in which a partici-
12 pant in the Program is enrolled for the payment of the
13 educational expenses described in subsection (a). Such
14 payments may be made without regard to subsections (a)
15 and (b) of section 3324 of title 31.

16 **“§ 7674. Status of certain participants**

17 “(a) STATUS.—A participant in the Program de-
18 scribed in subsection (b) shall not, by reason of such par-
19 ticipation—

20 “(1) be considered an employee of the Federal
21 Government; or

22 “(2) be counted against any personnel ceiling
23 affecting the Veterans Health Administration.

24 “(b) COVERED PARTICIPANTS.—Subsection (a) ap-
25 plies in the case of any participant in the Program who

1 is a student on a full-time basis and is not performing
2 service for the Department.

3 **“§ 7675. Obligated service**

4 “(a) IN GENERAL.—Each participant in the Program
5 shall provide service as a full-time employee of the Depart-
6 ment for the period of obligated service provided in the
7 agreement of the participant entered into under section
8 7603 of this title. Such service shall be provided in the
9 full-time clinical practice of such participant’s profession
10 or in another health-care position in an assignment or lo-
11 cation determined by the Secretary.

12 “(b) DETERMINATION OF SERVICE COMMENCEMENT
13 DATE.—(1) Not later than 60 days before a participant’s
14 service commencement date, the Secretary shall notify the
15 participant of that service commencement date. That date
16 is the date for the beginning of the participant’s period
17 of obligated service.

18 “(2) As soon as possible after a participant’s service
19 commencement date, the Secretary shall—

20 “(A) in the case of a participant who is not a
21 full-time employee in the Veterans Health Adminis-
22 tration, appoint the participant as such an employee;
23 and

24 “(B) in the case of a participant who is an em-
25 ployee in the Veterans Health Administration but is

1 not serving in a position for which the participant's
2 course of education or training prepared the partici-
3 pant, assign the participant to such a position.

4 “(3)(A) In the case of a participant receiving a de-
5 gree from a school of medicine, osteopathy, dentistry, op-
6 tometry, or podiatry, the participant's service commence-
7 ment date is the date upon which the participant becomes
8 licensed to practice medicine, osteopathy, dentistry, op-
9 tometry, or podiatry, as the case may be, in a State.

10 “(B) In the case of a participant receiving a degree
11 from a school of nursing, the participant's service com-
12 mencement date is the later of—

13 “(i) the participant's course completion date; or

14 “(ii) the date upon which the participant be-
15 comes licensed as a registered nurse in a State.

16 “(C) In the case of a participant not covered by sub-
17 paragraph (A) or (B), the participant's service commence-
18 ment date is the later of—

19 “(i) the participant's course completion date; or

20 “(ii) the date the participant meets any applica-
21 ble licensure or certification requirements.

22 “(4) The Secretary shall by regulation prescribe the
23 service commencement date for participants who were
24 part-time students. Such regulations shall prescribe terms

1 as similar as practicable to the terms set forth in para-
2 graph (3).

3 “(c) COMMENCEMENT OF OBLIGATED SERVICE.—(1)
4 Except as provided in paragraph (2), a participant in the
5 Program shall be considered to have begun serving the
6 participant’s period of obligated service—

7 “(A) on the date, after the participant’s course
8 completion date, on which the participant (in accord-
9 ance with subsection (b)) is appointed as a full-time
10 employee in the Veterans Health Administration; or

11 “(B) if the participant is a full-time employee
12 in the Veterans Health Administration on such
13 course completion date, on the date thereafter on
14 which the participant is assigned to a position for
15 which the participant’s course of training prepared
16 the participant.

17 “(2) A participant in the Program who on the partici-
18 pant’s course completion date is a full-time employee in
19 the Veterans Health Administration serving in a capacity
20 for which the participant’s course of training prepared the
21 participant shall be considered to have begun serving the
22 participant’s period of obligated service on such course
23 completion date.

24 “(d) COURSE COMPLETION DATE DEFINED.—In this
25 section, the term ‘course completion date’ means the date

1 on which a participant in the Program completes the par-
2 ticipant's course of education or training under the Pro-
3 gram.

4 **“§ 7676. Breach of agreement: liability**

5 “(a) LIQUIDATED DAMAGES.—A participant in the
6 Program (other than a participant described in subsection
7 (b)) who fails to accept payment, or instructs the edu-
8 cational institution in which the participant is enrolled not
9 to accept payment, in whole or in part, of a scholarship
10 under the agreement entered into under section 7603 of
11 this title shall be liable to the United States for liquidated
12 damages in the amount of \$1,500. Such liability is in addi-
13 tion to any period of obligated service or other obligation
14 or liability under the agreement.

15 “(b) LIABILITY DURING COURSE OF EDUCATION OR
16 TRAINING.—(1) Except as provided in subsection (d), a
17 participant in the Program shall be liable to the United
18 States for the amount which has been paid to or on behalf
19 of the participant under the agreement if any of the fol-
20 lowing occurs:

21 “(A) The participant fails to maintain an ac-
22 ceptable level of academic standing in the edu-
23 cational institution in which the participant is en-
24 rolled (as determined by the educational institution
25 under regulations prescribed by the Secretary).

1 “(B) The participant is dismissed from such
2 educational institution for disciplinary reasons.

3 “(C) The participant voluntarily terminates the
4 course of education or training in such educational
5 institution before the completion of such course of
6 education or training.

7 “(D) The participant fails to become licensed to
8 practice medicine, osteopathy, dentistry, podiatry, or
9 optometry in a State, fails to become licensed as a
10 registered nurse in a State, or fails to meet any ap-
11 plicable licensure requirement in the case of any
12 other health-care personnel who provide either direct
13 patient-care services or services incident to direct
14 patient-care services, during a period of time deter-
15 mined under regulations prescribed by the Secretary.

16 “(E) In the case of a participant who is a part-
17 time student, the participant fails to maintain em-
18 ployment, while enrolled in the course of training
19 being pursued by the participant, as a Department
20 employee.

21 “(2) Liability under this subsection is in lieu of any
22 service obligation arising under a participant’s agreement.

23 “(c) LIABILITY DURING PERIOD OF OBLIGATED
24 SERVICE.—(1) Except as provided in subsection (d), if a
25 participant in the Program breaches the agreement by

1 failing for any reason to complete such participant's pe-
 2 riod of obligated service, the United States shall be enti-
 3 tled to recover from the participant an amount determined
 4 in accordance with the following formula:

$$A=3\Phi \left(\frac{t-s}{t} \right)$$

5 “(2) In such formula:

6 “(A) ‘A’ is the amount the United States is en-
 7 titled to recover.

8 “(B) ‘ Φ ’ is the sum of—

9 “(i) the amounts paid under this sub-
 10 chapter to or on behalf of the participant; and

11 “(ii) the interest on such amounts which
 12 would be payable if at the time the amounts
 13 were paid they were loans bearing interest at
 14 the maximum legal prevailing rate, as deter-
 15 mined by the Treasurer of the United States.

16 “(C) ‘t’ is the total number of months in the
 17 participant's period of obligated service, including
 18 any additional period of obligated service in accord-
 19 ance with section 7673(c)(2) of this title.

20 “(D) ‘s’ is the number of months of such period
 21 served by the participant in accordance with section
 22 7673 of this title.

1 “(d) LIMITATION ON LIABILITY FOR REDUCTIONS-
 2 IN-FORCE.—Liability shall not arise under subsection
 3 (b)(1)(E) or (c) in the case of a participant otherwise cov-
 4 ered by the subsection concerned if the participant fails
 5 to maintain employment as a Department employee due
 6 to a reduction-in-force.

7 “(e) PERIOD FOR PAYMENT OF DAMAGES.—Any
 8 amount of damages which the United States is entitled
 9 to recover under this section shall be paid to the United
 10 States within the one-year period beginning on the date
 11 of the breach of the agreement.

12 **“§ 7677. Expiration of program**

13 “The Secretary may not furnish scholarships to indi-
 14 viduals who commence participation in the Program after
 15 December 31, 2001.”.

16 (2) The table of sections at the beginning of chapter
 17 76 of title 38, United States Code, is amended by adding
 18 at the end the following:

“SUBCHAPTER VI—EMPLOYEE INCENTIVE SCHOLARSHIP
 PROGRAM

- “7671. Authority for program.
- “7672. Eligibility; agreement.
- “7673. Scholarship.
- “7674. Status of certain participants.
- “7675. Obligated service.
- “7676. Breach of agreement: liability.
- “7677. Expiration of program.”.

19 (b) REGULATIONS.—The Secretary of Veterans Af-
 20 fairs may treat regulations prescribed subchapter II of

1 chapter 76 of title 38, United States Code, as regulations
 2 required under subchapter VI of that chapter, as added
 3 by subsection (a), but only to the extent that the regula-
 4 tions prescribed under such subchapter II are not incon-
 5 sistent with the provisions of such subchapter VI.

6 **SEC. 3. EDUCATION DEBT REDUCTION PROGRAM FOR VET-**
 7 **ERANS HEALTH ADMINISTRATION HEALTH**
 8 **PROFESSIONALS.**

9 (a) PROGRAM AUTHORITY.—Chapter 76 of title 38,
 10 United States Code (as amended by section 2), is further
 11 amended by adding after subchapter VI the following new
 12 subchapter:

13 “SUBCHAPTER VII—EDUCATION DEBT
 14 REDUCTION PROGRAM

15 “§ 7681. Authority for program

16 “(a) IN GENERAL.—(1) As part of the Educational
 17 Assistance Program, the Secretary may carry out an edu-
 18 cation debt reduction program under this subchapter. The
 19 program shall be known as the Department of Veterans
 20 Affairs Primary Care Workers Education Debt Reduction
 21 Program (hereinafter in this subchapter referred to as the
 22 ‘Education Debt Reduction Program’).

23 “(2) The purpose of the Education Debt Reduction
 24 Program is to assist personnel serving in health-care posi-
 25 tions in the Veterans Health Administration in reducing

1 the amount of debt incurred by such personnel in complet-
2 ing programs of education or training that qualified such
3 personnel for such service.

4 “(b) RELATIONSHIP TO EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE
5 PROGRAM.—Education debt reduction payments under
6 the Education Debt Reduction Program shall be in addi-
7 tion to other assistance available to individuals under the
8 Educational Assistance Program.

9 **“§ 7682. Eligibility**

10 “(a) ELIGIBILITY.—An individual eligible to partici-
11 pate in the Education Debt Reduction Program is any in-
12 dividual who—

13 “(1) is serving in a position in the Veterans
14 Health Administration under an appointment under
15 section 7402(b) of this title; and

16 “(2) owes any amount of principal or interest
17 under a loan the proceeds of which were used by or
18 on behalf of the individual to pay costs relating to
19 a course of education or training which led to a de-
20 gree that qualified the individual for a position re-
21 ferred to in paragraph (1).

22 “(b) COVERED COSTS.—For purposes of subsection
23 (a)(2), costs relating to a course of education or training
24 include—

25 “(1) tuition expenses;

1 “(2) all other reasonable educational expenses,
2 including expenses for fees, books, and laboratory
3 expenses; and

4 “(3) reasonable living expenses.

5 **“§ 7683. Preference**

6 “(a) PREFERENCE.—Notwithstanding section
7 7603(d) of this title, in selecting individuals for education
8 debt reduction payments under the Education Debt Re-
9 duction Program, the Secretary shall give preference to
10 the following (in the order specified):

11 “(1) Individuals recently appointed by the Sec-
12 retary to positions under section 7401 of this title
13 in fields relating to primary care health services, as
14 designated by the Secretary.

15 “(2) Individuals recently appointed by the Sec-
16 retary to positions under such section in areas in
17 which the recruitment or retention of an adequate
18 supply of qualified health-care personnel is difficult,
19 as so designated.

20 “(3) Any other individuals serving in appoint-
21 ments to positions described in paragraphs (1) and
22 (2).

23 “(b) RECENTLY APPOINTED INDIVIDUALS.—An indi-
24 vidual shall be treated as recently appointed to a position
25 for purposes of subsection (a) if the individual was ap-

1 pointed to the position not more than 6 months before
2 the date of treatment for such purposes.

3 **“§ 7684. Education debt reduction**

4 “(a) IN GENERAL.—Education debt reduction pay-
5 ments under the Education Debt Reduction Program shall
6 consist of payments to individuals selected to participate
7 in the program of amounts to reimburse such individuals
8 for payments by such individuals of principal and interest
9 on loans described in section 7682(a)(2) of this title.

10 “(b) FREQUENCY OF PAYMENT.—(1) The Secretary
11 may make education debt reduction payments to any given
12 participant in the Education Debt Reduction Program on
13 a monthly or annual basis, at the election of the Secretary.

14 “(2) The Secretary shall make such payments at the
15 end of the period elected by the Secretary under para-
16 graph (1).

17 “(c) PERFORMANCE REQUIREMENT.—The Secretary
18 may make education debt reduction payments to a partici-
19 pant in the Education Debt Reduction Program for a pe-
20 riod only if the Secretary determines that the individual
21 maintained an acceptable level of performance in the posi-
22 tion or positions served by the participant during the pe-
23 riod.

24 “(d) MAXIMUM ANNUAL AMOUNT.—(1) Subject to
25 paragraph (2), the total amount of education debt reduc-

1 tion payments made to a participant for a year under the
2 Education Debt Reduction Program shall be—

3 “(A) \$6,000 for the first year of the partici-
4 pant’s participation in such Program;

5 “(B) \$8,000 for the second year of the partici-
6 pant’s participation in such Program; and

7 “(C) \$10,000 for the third year of the partici-
8 pant’s participation in such Program.

9 “(2) The total amount payable to a participant in
10 such Program for any year may not exceed the amount
11 of the principle and interest on loans referred to in sub-
12 section (a) that is paid by the individual during such year.

13 **“§ 7685. Expiration of program**

14 “The Secretary may not make education debt reduc-
15 tion payments to individuals who commence participation
16 in the Education Debt Reduction Program after December
17 31, 2001.”.

18 (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections
19 at the beginning of chapter 76 of title 38, United States
20 Code (as amended by section 2(b)), is further amended
21 by adding at the end the following:

“SUBCHAPTER VII—EDUCATION DEBT REDUCTION PROGRAM

“7681. Authority for program.

“7682. Eligibility.

“7683. Preference.

“7684. Education debt reduction.

“7685. Expiration of program.”.

1 **SEC. 4. REPEAL OF PROHIBITION ON PAYMENT OF TUITION**
2 **LOANS.**

3 Section 523(b) of the Veterans Health Care Act of
4 1992 (Public Law 102–585; 106 Stat. 4959; 38 U.S.C.
5 7601 note) is repealed.

6 **SEC. 5. OUTREACH.**

7 The Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall take appro-
8 priate actions to notify employees of the Department of
9 Veterans Affairs of the benefits available under the De-
10 partment of Veterans Affairs Employee Incentive Scholar-
11 ship Program under subchapter VI of chapter 76 of title
12 38, United States Code (as added by section 2), and under
13 the Department of Veterans Affairs Primary Care Work-
14 ers Education Debt Reduction Program under subchapter
15 VII of that chapter (as added by section 3).

16 **SEC. 6. CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.**

17 Chapter 76 of title 38, United States Code (as
18 amended by this Act), is further amended as follows:

19 (1) In section 7601(a)—

20 (A) by striking out “and” at the end of
21 paragraph (2);

22 (B) by striking out the period at the end
23 of paragraph (3) and inserting in lieu thereof a
24 semicolon; and

25 (C) by adding at the end the following:

1 “(4) the employee incentive scholarship pro-
2 gram provided for in subchapter VI of this chapter;
3 and”;

4 “(5) the education debt reduction program pro-
5 vided for in subchapter VII of this chapter.”.

6 (2) In section 7602—

7 (A) in subsection (a)(1)—

8 (i) by striking out “subchapter I or
9 II” and inserting in lieu thereof “sub-
10 chapter II, III, or VI”;

11 (ii) by striking out “or for which” and
12 inserting in lieu thereof “, for which”; and

13 (iii) by inserting before the period at
14 the end the following: “, or for which a
15 scholarship may be awarded under sub-
16 chapter VI of this chapter, as the case may
17 be”; and

18 (B) in subsection (b), by striking out “sub-
19 chapter I or II” and inserting in lieu thereof
20 “subchapter II, III, or VI”.

21 (3) In section 7603—

22 (A) in subsection (a)—

23 (i) by striking out “To apply to par-
24 ticipate in the Educational Assistance Pro-
25 gram,” and inserting in lieu thereof “(1)

1 To apply to participate in the Educational
2 Assistance Program under subsection II,
3 III, V, or VI of this chapter,”; and

4 (ii) by adding at the end the follow-
5 ing:

6 “(2) To apply to participate in the Educational As-
7 sistance Program under subchapter VII of this chapter,
8 an individual shall submit to the Secretary an application
9 for such participation.”; and

10 (B) in subsection (b)(1), by inserting “(if
11 required)” before the period at the end.

12 (4) In section 7604, by striking out “sub-
13 chapter II, III, or V” each place it appears in para-
14 graphs (1)(A), (2)(D), and (5) and inserting in lieu
15 thereof “subchapter II, III, V, or VI”.

16 (5) In section 7632—

17 (A) in paragraph (1)—

18 (i) by striking out “and the Tuition
19 Reimbursement Program” and inserting in
20 lieu thereof “, the Tuition Reimbursement
21 Program, the Employee Incentive Scholar-
22 ship Program, and the Education Debt Re-
23 duction Program”; and

24 (ii) by inserting “(if any)” after
25 “number of students”;

1 (B) in paragraph (2), by inserting “(if
2 any)” after “education institutions”; and

3 (C) in paragraph (4)—

4 (i) by striking “and per participant”
5 and inserting in lieu thereof “, per partici-
6 pant”; and

7 (ii) by inserting “, per participant in
8 the Employee Incentive Scholarship Pro-
9 gram, and per participant in the Education
10 Debt Reduction Program” before the pe-
11 riod at the end.

12 (6) In section 7636, by striking “or a stipend”
13 and inserting “a stipend, or education debt reduc-
14 tion”.

○