

107<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESS  
2<sup>D</sup> SESSION

# H. R. 3837

To establish the Silver Scholarship program to provide transferable educational awards to individuals 55 years of age and older who perform certain volunteer services.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 4, 2002

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Education and the Workforce

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## A BILL

To establish the Silver Scholarship program to provide transferable educational awards to individuals 55 years of age and older who perform certain volunteer services.

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. SILVER SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM.**

4 Subtitle D of title I of the National and Community  
5 Service Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 12601 et seq.) is amended  
6 by adding at the end the following new section:

7 **“SEC. 149. SILVER SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM.**

8 “(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Chief Executive Officer  
9 is authorized to award grants to public agencies and pri-

1 vate nonprofit organizations with experience in admin-  
2 istering volunteer programs (including the programs re-  
3 ferred to or administered under title II of the Domestic  
4 Volunteer Service Act of 1973) to provide scholarships of  
5 not more than \$1,000 each in accordance with this sec-  
6 tion.

7       “(b) APPLICATIONS.—An eligible agency or organiza-  
8 tion desiring a grant under this section shall submit to  
9 the Chief Executive Officer an application in such form  
10 and accompanied by such information as he may reason-  
11 ably require.

12       “(c) REQUIREMENTS FOR SCHOLARSHIP.—A public  
13 agency or nonprofit organization receiving a grant under  
14 subsection (a) may award scholarships of \$1,000 to each  
15 individual designated by a senior volunteer who has met  
16 the following requirements:

17               “(1) Performed not less than 500 hours of vol-  
18 unteer services of the type established to be appro-  
19 priate under subsection (d)(2) during a 12-month  
20 period (or a prorated amount for an individual who  
21 completes not less than 250 hours but less than 500  
22 hours in a 12-month period based on compelling per-  
23 sonal circumstances)—

24                       “(A) after having attained the age of 55  
25                       years; and

1           “(B) after the date of the enactment of  
2           this section.

3           “(2) Received fewer than 2 scholarships under  
4           this section within the 5-year period preceding the  
5           date that the scholarship is awarded.

6           “(d) CRITERIA AND PRIORITIES.—The Chief Execu-  
7           tive Officer shall—

8           “(1) establish criteria and priorities for award-  
9           ing grants under this section and for the award by  
10          grantees of scholarships under this section; and

11          “(2) establish which types of volunteer services  
12          (including tutoring or mentoring in a school setting,  
13          afterschool setting, or other community-based edu-  
14          cational setting and assisting persons with special  
15          needs to continue living independently) are appro-  
16          priate to receive credit toward a scholarship awarded  
17          under this section.

18          “(e) USE OF SCHOLARSHIPS.—A scholarship award-  
19          ed under this section may be used—

20          “(1) by the recipient or any person designated  
21          by the recipient;

22          “(2) only for qualified tuition and related ex-  
23          penses, as defined in section 117 of the Internal  
24          Revenue Code of 1986, and conditions set forth by  
25          the Chief Executive Officer through regulation; and

1           “(3) not later than 7 years after award of the  
2 scholarship.

3           “(f) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—

4           “(1) IN GENERAL.—There are authorized to be  
5 appropriated for this section \$20,000,000 for the  
6 first fiscal year beginning after the date of the en-  
7 actment of this section and such sums as are nec-  
8 essary for each fiscal year thereafter.

9           “(2) USE OF FUNDS.—Of the funds appro-  
10 priated under paragraph (1)—

11           “(A) not more than 50 percent shall be  
12 used for administrative purposes by the Chief  
13 Executive Officer;

14           “(B) not less than 40 percent shall be  
15 granted for use in awarding scholarships to vol-  
16 unteers who have performed the hours required  
17 for the scholarship providing tutoring or men-  
18 toring in a school setting, afterschool setting, or  
19 other community-based educational setting, as  
20 defined in rules promulgated by the Corpora-  
21 tion; and

22           “(C) not less than 10 percent shall be  
23 granted for use in awarding scholarships to eli-  
24 gible volunteers in assisting persons with special  
25 needs to continue to live independently, includ-

1           ing those who are homebound, as defined in  
2           rules promulgated by the Corporation.”.

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