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(Original Signature of Member)

117TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. _____

To amend title 38, United States Code, to improve the VA Work-Study program.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. CARTWRIGHT introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on _____

A BILL

To amend title 38, United States Code, to improve the VA Work-Study program.

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 “VA Work-Study Im-
5 provement Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. IMPROVEMENTS TO VA WORK-STUDY PROGRAM.**

7 (a) AUTHORIZED ACTIVITIES.—Subsection (a)(5) of
8 section 3485 of title 38, United States Code, is amended
9 by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

1 “(L) Any other activity at an agency of a State
2 or local government or a nonprofit organization that
3 would benefit, directly or indirectly, veterans or
4 members of the Armed Forces.”.

5 (b) APPLICABLE HOURLY MINIMUM WAGE.—Para-
6 graph (7) of subsection (a) of such section is amended
7 to read as follows:

8 “(7) For the purposes of this subsection and sub-
9 section (e), the term ‘applicable hourly minimum wages’
10 means the higher of the following wages:

11 “(A) The hourly minimum wage under section
12 6(a) of the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 (29
13 U.S.C. 206(a)).

14 “(B) The hourly minimum wage under com-
15 parable law of the State in which the services are to
16 be performed.

17 “(C) The hourly minimum wage under com-
18 parable law of the local government with jurisdiction
19 over the area in which the services are to be per-
20 formed.”.

21 (c) INCREASED NUMBER OF WORK HOURS AUTHOR-
22 IZED.—Paragraph (3) of such subsection is amended by
23 striking “25” and inserting “40”.

1 (d) ELECTRONIC TIMESHEETS.—Such section is
2 amended by adding at the end the following new sub-
3 section:

4 “(f) The Secretary shall ensure that—

5 “(1) an individual participating in a qualifying
6 work-study activity may electronically record the
7 hours worked under such activity; and

8 “(2) the supervisor of such individual may elec-
9 tronically approve such records.”.

10 (e) PUBLICATION OF DATA.—Such section, as
11 amended by subsection (d), is further amended by adding
12 at the end the following new subsection:

13 “(g) On an annual basis, the Secretary shall publish
14 the following information regarding qualifying work-study
15 activities carried out during the covered year:

16 “(1) The number of individuals who partici-
17 pated in a qualifying work-study activity.

18 “(2) The demographics of such individuals.

19 “(3) A description of such activities.

20 “(4) The wages paid to such individuals.

21 “(5) The number of hours worked by such indi-
22 viduals.

23 “(6) A list of the participating educational in-
24 stitutions.”.

1 (f) APPLICABILITY.—The amendments made by this
2 Act shall apply with respect to a payment of work-study
3 allowance made under section 3485 of title 38, United
4 States Code, on or after January 1, 2025.