

110TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2259

To ensure that members of the National Guard and Reserves are able to fully participate in the benefits delivery at discharge program administered jointly by the Secretary of Defense and the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to provide information and assistance on available benefits and other transition assistance to members of the Armed Forces who are separating from the Armed Forces.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 9, 2007

Mr. WELCH of Vermont introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Armed Services, and in addition to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

A BILL

To ensure that members of the National Guard and Reserves are able to fully participate in the benefits delivery at discharge program administered jointly by the Secretary of Defense and the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to provide information and assistance on available benefits and other transition assistance to members of the Armed Forces who are separating from the Armed Forces.

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

1 **SECTION 1. PARTICIPATION BY MEMBERS OF RESERVE**
2 **COMPONENTS IN BENEFITS DELIVERY AT**
3 **DISCHARGE PROGRAM.**

4 (a) **PLAN TO MAXIMIZE PARTICIPATION.**—Not later
5 than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act,
6 the Secretary of Defense and the Secretary of Veterans
7 Affairs shall jointly submit to Congress a plan to maximize
8 access to the benefits delivery at discharge program for
9 members of the reserve components of the Armed Forces
10 who have been called or ordered to active duty at any time
11 since September 11, 2001.

12 (b) **CONTENTS.**—The plan submitted under sub-
13 section (a) shall include a description of efforts to ensure
14 that services under the benefits delivery at discharge pro-
15 gram are provided, to the maximum extent practicable—

16 (1) at each military installation;

17 (2) at each armory and military family support
18 center of the National Guard;

19 (3) at each military medical care facility at
20 which members of the Armed Forces are separated
21 or discharged from the Armed Forces; and

22 (4) in the case of a member on the temporary
23 disability retired list under section 1202 or 1205 of
24 title 10, United States Code, who is being retired
25 under another provision of such title or is being dis-

1 charged, at a location reasonably convenient to the
2 member.

3 (c) BENEFITS DELIVERY AT DISCHARGE PROGRAM
4 DEFINED.—In this section, the term “benefits delivery at
5 discharge program” means a program administered jointly
6 by the Secretary of Defense and the Secretary of Veterans
7 Affairs to provide information and assistance on available
8 benefits and other transition assistance to members of the
9 Armed Forces who are separating from the Armed Forces,
10 including assistance to obtain any disability benefits for
11 such members may be eligible.

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