



Senate Passes the Student Veteran Coronavirus Response Act of 2020

This week, the Senate passed [H.R. 6322, the Student Veteran Coronavirus Response Act of 2020](#). The bill authorizes continued VA Work-Study payments during COVID-19 pandemic, among other important fixes and protections.

We've heard from many student veterans who rely on their pay from a VA Work-Study position to make ends meet while in school. Without this new law, the VA would not have been able to continue to pay this benefit if a school is closed or has no way to support the VA Work-Study position remotely. SVA applauds Congress' swift action to address the urgent needs of student veterans across the country.

At the beginning of this pandemic, SVA worked to immediately raise the flag on the potential loss of tuition and housing for any student in a program that converts from in-person to online learning, which may have impacted over half a million students. We led a coalition of over 70 organizations and colleges that resulted in the passage of a new law in about a week.

Since then, SVA has also addressed concerns with the loss of work-study income, changes in unemployment eligibility, and entitlement restoration to reduce the negative impacts COVID-19 will have on student veterans and military-connected students.

We know there is more work to do. We're tracking issues related to course options during the summer term, shifts in terms impacting housing, and availability of internship options. We continue to work closely with Capitol Hill, the VA, and our VSO partners to understand and advocate for greater support for student veterans and their families during these unprecedented times.

As [H.R. 6322](#) heads to the President's desk, we look forward to an equally swift signature that finalizes these needed protections. As always, you can [contact your SVA National Headquarters team](#) if we can better connect with and support you in any way.