



May 18, 2026

The Honorable John W. Mannion
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Mannion:

The Fleet Reserve Association (FRA) supports H.R. 5436," a bill to prohibit an educational institution from withholding a transcript from an individual who pursued a course or program of education at such institution using Post-9/11 educational assistance," and thanks you for introducing this legislation. The Post-9/11 GI Bill is an earned benefit, and an institution's refusal to release a transcript reflecting that benefit's use directly impedes the transition outcomes that benefit was designed to deliver.

Sea service veterans who use Post-9/11 educational assistance often pursue credentials in stages, transferring courses, stacking certificates, and re-entering school after deployments or moves. A withheld transcript at any point in that journey blocks job applications, follow-on enrollments, professional licensure, and federal hiring processes that depend on verified academic records. Veterans should not be held responsible, through their academic records, for billing disputes or administrative actions outside their control involving benefits paid directly to the institution.

FRA urges passage of H.R. 5436 as introduced and asks that you keep the prohibition simple, broadly applicable, and enforceable through existing VA approval authorities. For more information, please contact Theo Lawson, Director of Legislative Programs, at TheoL@fra.org.

Sincerely,

DONNA M. JANSKY
National Executive Director