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COMMITTEE ON VETERANS' AFFAIRS

Jeff Miller, Chairman, 335 Cannon House Office Building, Washington D.C. 20515

IMMEDIATE RELEASE April 7, 2011

CONTACT: Amy Mitchell (202) 225-3527

Miller Introduces Restoring GI Bill Fairness Act of 2011

WASHINGTON, DC – Chairman Jeff Miller (FL-01) of the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs and Chairman Marlin Stutzman (IN-03) of the Committee's Subcommittee on Economic Opportunity introduced H.R. 1383, the Restoring GI Bill Fairness Act of 2011 yesterday.

H.R. 1383 will temporarily authorize the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) to pay tuition and fees on behalf of eligible veterans attending non-public education and training institutions under the Post 9/11 GI Bill, in an amount that is the greater of \$17,500, or the maximum in-state rate for undergraduate tuition and fees in effect on October 27, 2010.

This temporary change would prevent students who have already enrolled in high-cost non-public schools from experiencing a reduction in tuition and fees paid by VA on their behalf due to changes made under Public Law 111-377, the Post-9/11 Veterans Educational Assistance Improvements Act of 2010.

"I am pleased to introduce this legislation to restore fairness and to ensure that no current student veteran will see their tuition and fee payments reduced," stated Miller. "I am also pleased that this bill is fully paid for and does not increase the deficit or create new spending."

"I am proud to join Chairman Miller in supporting this common sense solution to help our nation's student veterans," commented Stutzman. "If H.R.1383 is not passed into law, students at non-public schools in several states including Florida, New York, Michigan, and Texas could have to pay a significant portion of their tuition out of their own pockets. This was never the intent of the Post 9/11 GI Bill and I am happy that we have introduced legislation to address the problem."

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