December 21, 2010

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“Madam Speaker, I rise to congratulate National Guardsmen all across America on the passage of the Post-9/11 Veterans Educational Assistance Improvements Act, which the president will sign into law later this week. Legislation that I introduced in the House last year to allow National Guardsmen to use their Title 32 service -- which includes homeland security, troop support, and disaster relief missions -- to qualify for the Post-9/11 G.I. Bill benefits is included in the bill we sent to the president last week.

“Under my bill, 130,000 national guardsmen who have helped protect our citizens here at home will now be able to qualify for the G.I. Bill's many education benefits. The heroes in America's National Guard – including the 20,000 soldiers and airmen in the Pennsylvania National Guard – provide invaluable service to our country during times of crisis. Thanks to this bill they, too, will benefit from the landmark legislation signed into law in 2008. I stand today to thank America's National Guard for their service and to let them know our work is not done in honoring their commitment to our safety and security.”