

Comment in response to “Notice of Intent and Request for Comment—Employees Whose Association With For-Profit Educational Institutions Poses No Detriment to Veterans”

The Servicewomen’s Action Network (SWAN) strongly opposes this proposed change to current regulations. If enacted, it will allow Department of Veterans Affairs (DVA) employees to receive wages, salary, dividends, profits, gratuities or services from or to own interest in for-profit institutions that accept GI Bill-using students. It is not the task of DVA employees to seek personal profit from these institutions but rather to provide oversight of them to ensure student veterans are treated fairly and receive a quality education in exchange for the GI Bill-based tuition payments these institutions collect. Too many of these for-profit institutions have engaged in questionable marketing practices in recruiting veterans and too many student veterans enrolled in for-profit institutions have experienced poor educational outcomes. In fact, the recently passed *Harry W. Colmery Veterans Educational Assistance Act* includes provisions to help veterans hurt by unscrupulous actions taken by certain of these institutions. Now is not the time to loosen ethics rules that protect our veterans.