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OFFICE OF SEN. STROM THURMOND
447 Senate Office Bldg.
Washington, D. C.

IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Sen. Strom Thurmond announced today that the Senate Committee on Labor and Public Welfare has ordered favorably reported to the Senate a bill to amend the Korean GI Bill so as to permit a veteran to seek a second college degree in the same field of study without having pursuit of the second degree deemed "a change of program."

Sen. Thurmond, Chairman of the Senate Subcommittee on Veterans Affairs, said the legislation is needed to correct an incongruous result which occurs under existing law. Presently, where a veteran obtains a particular college degree and thereafter seeks a higher college degree in the same field of study, the veteran is deemed to have made one change of program unless he had the foresight to list the higher degree as his educational objective when he commenced college training. Since many veterans do not decide to obtain a master's degree until a baccalaureate degree has been obtained, and since a veteran is permitted only one change of program throughout his educational training period, it is important that this situation not be treated as a change of program.

Sen. Thurmond commented that the result which prevails under existing law was never intended by Congress and should be corrected.

END