Press Coverage | March 23, 2026

Over 1 Million Vets May Be Eligible for Education Benefits They Didn’t Know They Had

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Mary Grace W. Metcalfe | Lauren Hancock Miller

Mary Grace Metcalfe and Lauren Miller, a partner and an associate in Troutman Pepper Locke’s Regulatory Investigations, Strategies + Enforcement Practice Group, were quoted in the March 23, 2026 *Maryland Matters* article, “Over 1 Million Vets May Be Eligible for Education Benefits They Didn’t Know They Had.”

- “It is going to be a long time before we fully appreciate the harm this has caused veterans and their families by forcing them to pay out of pocket, by forcing them to take out loans, or by forcing them to forego education altogether because they were not given the benefits they were promised,” said Mary Grace Metcalfe, a partner at the law firm Troutman Pepper Locke, which worked on the case pro bono.
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- Between the Rudisill and Perkins cases, there are about 2.2 million veterans who are going to get benefits that “Congress had already promised them,” but they hadn’t received, said Lauren Hancock Miller, an associate at Troutman Pepper Locke.
- “We have clients who served their country for more than 20 years, and they wouldn’t obtain the full amount of benefits simply because the VA said that you needed to have some sort of either break in service or reenlistment,” Miller said.
- “So that position was really nonsensical, and beyond that, it was very contrary to the Supreme Court’s decision.”
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- “This is a nonpartisan issue,” Metcalfe said. “This is an American issue, and we have been extremely fortunate in the outpouring of support from all corners of the country in pursuing benefits as Congress intended.”

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