AMENDMENT TO THE AMENDMENT IN THE
NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE TO H.R. 4508
OFFERED BY MS. BONAMICI OF OREGON

Insert after section 3 the following:

SEC. 4. LIMITATION PENDING CERTIFICATION AND ASSESSMENT ON ARMED FORCES.

(a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds the following:

(1) The Consumer Financial Protection Bureau indicates that more than 200,000 members of the military owe more than $2.9 billion in student loan debt.

(2) A Dear Colleague letter to the Committee on Education and the Workforce of the House of Representatives from Representative John Sarbanes dated December 11, 2017 indicates the Public Service Loan Forgiveness Program helps the U.S. military recruit and retain skilled and motivated men and women.

(3) According to the U.S. Naval Institute, close to 6800 active duty military personnel are enrolled in the Public Service Loan Forgiveness Program.

(4) An article by the U.S. Naval Institute indicates military recruitment could be negatively im-
pacted by the elimination of the Public Service Loan Forgiveness program.

(5) A letter from the Veterans Service Organizations to Senator Lamar Alexander and Representative Bobby Scott dated November 27, 2017, urges the Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions of the Senate and the Committee on Education and the Workforce of the House of Representatives to preserve the Public Service Loan Forgiveness program.

(b) CERTIFICATION.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, this Act shall not take effect until the date on which the Inspector General of the Department of Education, in consultation with the Inspector General of the Department of Veterans Affairs—

(1) certifies to Congress that no provision of this Act would negatively affect recruiting in the Armed Forces; and

(2) submits to Congress an assessment of the potential effects of this Act on recruiting in each military service.