

103<sup>D</sup> CONGRESS  
2<sup>D</sup> SESSION

# H. R. 3977

To reform the grave marker allowance for veterans.

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IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 8, 1994

Mr. PETERSON of Florida introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs

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## A BILL

To reform the grave marker allowance for veterans.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. GRAVE MARKER ALLOWANCE.**

4 (a) REIMBURSEMENT FOR NON-GOVERNMENT  
5 MARKERS.—Section 2306 of title 38, United States Code,  
6 is amended to by adding at the end thereof the following  
7 new subsection:

8 “(e) In lieu of furnishing a headstone or marker  
9 under subsection (a)(2) or (b) of this section, the Sec-  
10 retary, in the Secretary’s discretion, having due regard for  
11 the circumstances in each case, may reimburse the person  
12 entitled to request such headstone or marker for the actual

1 costs incurred by or on behalf of such person in (1) acquir-  
2 ing a non-Government headstone or marker for placement  
3 in any cemetery other than a national cemetery in connec-  
4 tion with the burial or memorialization of the deceased  
5 individual, and (2) lettering final dates on such headstones  
6 or markers acquired while the individual is alive. Reim-  
7 bursement under the preceding sentence may be made  
8 only upon the request of the person entitled to request  
9 the headstone or marker and may not be made in an  
10 amount in excess of the average actual cost (not including  
11 freight charges), as determined by the Secretary, of  
12 headstones and markers furnished under subsections (a)  
13 and (b) of this section.”.

14 (b) GRAVE LINERS.—Section 2306(d)(1) of such title  
15 is amended by striking out “shall provide a grave liner  
16 for each” and inserting in lieu thereof “may provide a  
17 grave liner for any”.

18 (c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by  
19 this section shall apply to deaths occurring on or after  
20 November 1, 1994.

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