### 104TH CONGRESS 1ST SESSION H. R. 2626

To amend title 38, United States Code, to ensure that payments of compensation for veterans with service-connected disabilities and payments of dependency and indemnity compensation for survivors of such veterans are made regardless of Government financial shortfalls.

#### IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NOVEMBER 13, 1995

Mr. HUTCHINSON (for himself and Mr. STUMP) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs

## A BILL

- To amend title 38, United States Code, to ensure that payments of compensation for veterans with service-connected disabilities and payments of dependency and indemnity compensation for survivors of such veterans are made regardless of Government financial shortfalls.
  - 1 Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-
  - 2 tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

# 1SECTION 1. ENSURED PAYMENT OF COMPENSATION AND2DEPENDENCY AND INDEMNITY COMPENSA-3TION.

4 (a) IN GENERAL.—(1) Chapter 1 of title 38, United
5 States Code, is amended by adding at the end the follow6 ing new section:

## 7 "§116. Ensured payment of compensation and de8 pendency and indemnity compensation

"(a) In any case in which appropriations are not oth-9 erwise available for payment of compensation and depend-10 ency and indemnity compensation, the Secretary shall nev-11 ertheless ensure that payments of compensation and de-12 pendency and indemnity compensation are made in ac-13 cordance with regular procedures and schedules, and there 14 is hereby appropriated such sums as may be necessary for 15 that purpose. 16

"(b) In any case in which certain functions of the 17 Government are delayed, deferred, or canceled due to a 18 limitation on the ability of the Government to borrow 19 funds, the Secretary shall nevertheless ensure that pay-20 ments of compensation and dependency and indemnity 21 22 compensation are made in accordance with regular proce-23 dures and schedules, and receipts and disbursements of 24 the Government shall be managed so as to ensure that the requirement imposed by this subsection on the Sec-25 26 retary is complied with.

1 "(c) In any case in which the Secretary uses the au-2 thority of subsection (a) to make payments of compensa-3 tion and dependency and indemnity compensation, appli-4 cable accounts shall be charged for amounts so paid when 5 regular appropriations become available for that pur-6 pose.".

7 (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections
8 at the beginning of such chapter is amended by adding
9 at the end the following new item:

 $\bigcirc$ 

<sup>&</sup>quot;116. Ensured payment of compensation and dependency and indemnity compensation.".