

106TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2586

To amend title 38, United States Code, to increase the amount of veterans' burial benefit paid for plot allowances, and to provide for the payment to States of plot allowances for veterans eligible for burial in a national cemetery who are buried in cemeteries of such States.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 22, 1999

Ms. BROWN of Florida (for herself, Mr. EVANS, Mr. FILNER, Mr. SHOWS and Mr. UDALL of New Mexico) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs

A BILL

To amend title 38, United States Code, to increase the amount of veterans' burial benefit paid for plot allowances, and to provide for the payment to States of plot allowances for veterans eligible for burial in a national cemetery who are buried in cemeteries of such States.

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. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the "Veterans Burial Plot
5 Allowance Improvement Act of 1999".

1 **SEC. 2. INCREASE IN AMOUNT OF PLOT ALLOWANCE BEN-**
2 **EFIT; EXPANSION OF PLOT ALLOWANCE BEN-**
3 **EFIT ELIGIBILITY.**

4 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 2303(b) of title 38,
5 United States Code, is amended to read as follows:

6 “(b)(1) In addition to the benefits provided for under
7 section 2302 of this title and subsection (a), for a veteran
8 who is not buried in a national cemetery or other cemetery
9 under the jurisdiction of the United States, the Secretary
10 shall pay a plot or interment allowance as follows:

11 “(A) In the case of a veteran who is eligible for
12 burial in a national cemetery under section 2402 of
13 this title who is buried (without charge for the cost
14 of a plot or interment) in a cemetery, or a section
15 of a cemetery, that (i) is used solely for the inter-
16 ment of persons eligible for burial in a national cem-
17 etery, and (ii) is owned by a State or by an agency
18 or political subdivision of a State, the Secretary shall
19 pay to such State, agency, or political subdivision
20 the sum of \$300 as a plot or interment allowance for
21 such veteran.

22 “(B)(i) In the case of a veteran described in
23 clause (ii) who is buried in a cemetery, or a section
24 of a cemetery, other than as described in subpara-
25 graph (A), the Secretary shall pay a sum not exceed-
26 ing \$300 as a plot or interment allowance to such

1 person as the Secretary prescribes, except that if
2 any part of the plot or interment costs of a burial
3 to which this subparagraph applies has been paid or
4 assumed by a State, an agency or political subdivi-
5 sion of a State, or a former employer of the de-
6 ceased veteran, no claim for such allowance shall be
7 allowed for more than the difference between the en-
8 tire amount of the expenses incurred and the
9 amount paid or assumed by any or all of the fore-
10 going entities.

11 “(ii) A veteran referred to in clause (i) is a vet-
12 eran eligible for a burial allowance under section
13 2302 of this title, or under subsection (a), who was
14 discharged from the active military, naval, or air
15 service for a disability incurred or aggravated in line
16 of duty.”.

17 (b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by
18 subsection (a) shall take effect on the date of the enact-
19 ment of this Act and apply with respect to individuals
20 dying on or after such date.

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