

108TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2217

To amend title 38, United States Code, to increase burial benefits for veterans, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 22, 2003

Ms. BERKLEY introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs

A BILL

To amend title 38, United States Code, to increase burial benefits for veterans, and for other purposes.

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 Bene-
5 fits Improvement Act of 2003”.

6 **SEC. 2. INCREASE IN BURIAL BENEFITS FOR VETERANS.**

7 (a) BURIAL AND FUNERAL EXPENSES.—(1) Section
8 2302(a) of title 38, United States Code, is amended by
9 striking “\$300” and inserting “\$1,135 (as increased from
10 time to time under section 5312(a) of this title)”.

1 (2) Section 2303(a)(1)(A) of that title is amended by
2 striking “\$300” and inserting “\$1,135 (as increased from
3 time to time under section 5312(a) of this title)”.

4 (3) Section 2307 of that title is amended by striking
5 “\$2,000,” and inserting “\$3,712 (as increased from time
6 to time under section 5312(a) of this title),”.

7 (b) PLOT ALLOWANCE.—Section 2303(b) of that title
8 is amended—

9 (1) by striking “\$300” the first place it appears
10 and inserting “\$670 (as increased from time to time
11 under section 5312(a) of this title)”;

12 (2) by striking “\$300” the second place it ap-
13 pears and inserting “\$670 (as so increased)”.

14 (c) ANNUAL ADJUSTMENT.—Section 5312(a) of such
15 title is amended by striking “and each rate of monthly
16 allowance paid under section 1805 of this title,” and in-
17 serting “each rate of monthly allowance paid under section
18 1805 of this title, each rate of burial and funeral expenses
19 provided for under sections 2302(a), 2303(a)(1)(A), and
20 2307 of this title, and each rate of plot allowance provided
21 for under section 2303(b) of this title,”.

22 (d) EFFECTIVE DATE.—(1) Except as provided in
23 paragraph (2), the amendments made by this section shall
24 apply to deaths occurring on or after the date of the enact-
25 ment of this Act.

1 (2) No adjustments shall be made under section
2 5312(a) of title 38, United States Code, as amended by
3 subsection (c), for fiscal year 2004 for rates of burial and
4 funeral expenses provided for under sections 2302(a),
5 2303(a)(1)(A), and 2307 of title 38, United States Code,
6 and each rate of plot allowance provided for under section
7 2303(b) of such title.

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