

108TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 664

To amend title 38, United States Code, to improve benefits for Filipino veterans of World War II and surviving spouses of such veterans, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 11, 2003

Mr. FILNER (for himself, Mr. SIMMONS, Mr. EVANS, Mr. CUNNINGHAM, Ms. PELOSI, Mr. ROHRABACHER, Mr. ISSA, Ms. LOFGREN, Ms. MILLENDER-MCDONALD, Mr. TIAHRT, and Mr. ABERCROMBIE) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs

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## A BILL

To amend title 38, United States Code, to improve benefits for Filipino veterans of World War II and surviving spouses of such 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 “Health Care for Fili-  
5 pino World War II Veterans Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. ELIGIBILITY FOR HEALTH CARE OF CERTAIN ADDI-**  
2 **TIONAL FILIPINO WORLD WAR II VETERANS**  
3 **RESIDING IN THE UNITED STATES.**

4 The text of section 1734 of title 38, United States  
5 Code, is amended to read as follows:

6 “(a) The Secretary shall furnish hospital and nursing  
7 home care and medical services to any individual described  
8 in subsection (b) in the same manner, and subject to the  
9 same terms and conditions, as apply to the furnishing of  
10 such care and services to individuals who are veterans as  
11 defined in section 101(2) of this title. Any disability of  
12 an individual described in subsection (b) that is a service-  
13 connected disability for purposes of this subchapter (as  
14 provided for under section 1735(2) of this title) shall be  
15 considered to be a service-connected disability for purposes  
16 of furnishing care and services under the preceding sen-  
17 tence.

18 “(b) Subsection (a) applies to any individual who is  
19 a Commonwealth Army veteran or new Philippine Scout  
20 and who—

21 “(1) is residing in the United States; and

22 “(2) is a citizen of the United States or an  
23 alien lawfully admitted to the United States for per-  
24 manent residence.”.

1 **SEC. 3. RATE OF PAYMENT OF DEPENDENCY AND INDEM-**  
2 **NITY COMPENSATION FOR SURVIVING**  
3 **SPOUSES OF CERTAIN FILIPINO VETERANS.**

4 (a) **RATE OF PAYMENT.**—Subsection (c) of section  
5 107 of title 38, United States Code, is amended by insert-  
6 ing “, and under chapter 13 of this title,” after “chapter  
7 11 of this title”.

8 (b) **EFFECTIVE DATE.**—The amendment made by  
9 subsection (a) shall take effect on the date of the enact-  
10 ment of this Act and shall apply to benefits paid for  
11 months beginning on or after that date.

12 **SEC. 4. RATE OF PAYMENT OF COMPENSATION BENEFITS**  
13 **FOR NEW PHILIPPINE SCOUTS RESIDING IN**  
14 **THE UNITED STATES.**

15 (a) **RATE OF PAYMENT.**—Section 107 of title 38,  
16 United States Code, as amended by section 3(a), is further  
17 amended—

18 (1) in the second sentence of subsection (b), by  
19 striking “Payments” and inserting “Except as pro-  
20 vided in subsection (c) or (d), payments”; and

21 (2) in subsection (c)—

22 (A) by inserting “or (b)” after “subsection  
23 (a)” the first place it appears; and

24 (B) by striking “subsection (a)” the second  
25 place it appears and inserting “the applicable  
26 subsection”.

1 (b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by  
2 subsection (a) shall take effect on the date of the enact-  
3 ment of this Act and shall apply to benefits paid for  
4 months beginning on or after that date.

5 **SEC. 5. BURIAL BENEFITS FOR NEW PHILIPPINE SCOUTS.**

6 (a) BENEFIT ELIGIBILITY.—Subsection (b)(2) of sec-  
7 tion 107 of title 38, United States Code, is amended—  
8 (1) by striking “and”; and  
9 (2) by inserting “, 23, and 24 (to the extent  
10 provided for in section 2402(8) of this title)” after  
11 “1312(a)”.

12 (b) BENEFIT RATE FOR CERTAIN PERSONS IN THE  
13 UNITED STATES.—Subsection (d) of such section is  
14 amended—

15 (1) in paragraph (1), by inserting “or sub-  
16 section (b), as the case may be,” after “subsection  
17 (a)”;

18 (2) in paragraph (2), by inserting “, or whose  
19 service is described in subsection (b) and who dies  
20 on or after the date of the enactment of the Health  
21 Care for Filipino World War II Veterans Act” in the  
22 matter preceding subparagraph (A) after “this sub-  
23 section”.

1       (c) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 2402(8) of  
2 such title is amended by inserting “or 107(b)” after  
3 “107(a)”.

4       (d) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by  
5 subsection (a) shall apply with respect to deaths occurring  
6 on or after the date of the enactment of this Act.

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