

110TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 6723

To provide benefits under the Post-Deployment/Mobilization Respite Absence program for certain periods before the implementation of the program.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 31, 2008

Mr. BRALEY of Iowa (for himself, Mr. KLINE of Minnesota, Mr. BOSWELL, Mr. LOEBSACK, Mr. LATHAM, Mr. KING of Iowa, Mr. OBERSTAR, Ms. MCCOLLUM of Minnesota, Mr. WALZ of Minnesota, Mr. PETERSON of Minnesota, Mr. ELLISON, Mr. RAMSTAD, and Mrs. BACHMANN) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Armed Services

A BILL

To provide benefits under the Post-Deployment/Mobilization Respite Absence program for certain periods before the implementation of the program.

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 “Guaranteed Benefits
5 for Our Troops Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. BENEFITS UNDER POST-DEPLOYMENT/MOBILIZA-**
2 **TION RESPITE ABSENCE PROGRAM FOR CER-**
3 **TAIN PERIODS BEFORE IMPLEMENTATION OF**
4 **PROGRAM.**

5 (a) IN GENERAL.—Under regulations prescribed by
6 the Secretary of Defense, the Secretary concerned shall
7 provide any member or former member of the Armed
8 Forces with the benefits specified in subsection (b) if the
9 member or former member would, on any day during the
10 period beginning on January 19, 2007, and ending on the
11 date of the implementation of the Post-Deployment/Mobi-
12 lization Respite Absence (PDMRA) program by the Sec-
13 retary concerned, have qualified for a day of administra-
14 tive absence under the Post-Deployment/Mobilization Res-
15 pite Absence program had the program been in effect dur-
16 ing such period.

17 (b) BENEFITS.—The benefits specified in this sub-
18 section are the following:

19 (1) In the case of an individual who is a former
20 member of the Armed Forces at the time of the pro-
21 vision of benefits under this section, payment of an
22 amount not to exceed \$200 for each day the indi-
23 vidual would have qualified for a day of administra-
24 tive absence as described in subsection (a) during
25 the period specified in that subsection.

1 (2) In the case of an individual who is a mem-
2 ber of the Armed Forces at the time of the provision
3 of benefits under this section, either one day of ad-
4 ministrative absence or payment of an amount not
5 to exceed \$200, as selected by the Secretary con-
6 cerned, for each day the individual would have quali-
7 fied for a day of administrative absence as described
8 in subsection (a) during the period specified in that
9 subsection.

10 (c) EXCLUSION OF CERTAIN FORMER MEMBERS.—

11 A former member of the Armed Forces is not eligible
12 under this section for the benefits specified in subsection
13 (b)(1) if the former member was discharged or released
14 from the Armed Forces under other than honorable condi-
15 tions.

16 (d) MAXIMUM NUMBER OF DAYS OF BENEFITS.—

17 The number of days of benefits providable to a member
18 or former member of the Armed Forces under this section
19 may not exceed 40 days of benefits.

20 (e) FORM OF PAYMENT.—The paid benefits

21 providable under subsection (b) may be paid in a lump
22 sum or installments, at the election of the Secretary con-
23 cerned.

24 (f) CONSTRUCTION WITH OTHER PAY AND LEAVE.—

25 The benefits provided a member or former member of the

1 Armed Forces under this section are in addition to any
2 other pay, absence, or leave provided by law.

3 (g) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

4 (1) The term “Post-Deployment/Mobilization
5 Respite Absence program” means the program of a
6 military department to provide days of administra-
7 tive absence not chargeable against available leave to
8 certain deployed or mobilized members of the Armed
9 Forces in order to assist such members in reinte-
10 grating into civilian life after deployment or mobili-
11 zation.

12 (2) The term “Secretary concerned” has the
13 meaning given that term in section 101(5) of title
14 37, United States Code.

15 (h) TERMINATION.—

16 (1) IN GENERAL.—The authority to provide
17 benefits under this section shall expire on the date
18 that is one year after the date of the enactment of
19 this Act.

20 (2) CONSTRUCTION.—Expiration under this
21 subsection of the authority to provide benefits under
22 this section shall not affect the utilization of any day
23 of administrative absence provided a member of the
24 Armed Forces under subsection (b)(2), or the pay-
25 ment of any payment authorized a member or

1 former member of the Armed Forces under sub-
2 section (b), before the expiration of the authority in
3 this section.

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