

111TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 2980

To amend title 38, United States Code, to reduce the period of time for which a veteran must be totally disabled before the veteran's survivors are eligible for the benefits provided by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs for survivors of certain veterans rated totally disabled at time of death.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 19, 2009

Mr. FILNER 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 reduce the period of time for which a veteran must be totally disabled before the veteran's survivors are eligible for the benefits provided by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs for survivors of certain veterans rated totally disabled at time of death.

1       *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2       *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

1 **SECTION 1. REDUCTION OF PERIOD OF TIME FOR WHICH**  
2 **VETERANS MUST BE TOTALLY DISABLED FOR**  
3 **PURPOSES OF BENEFITS PROVIDED BY SEC-**  
4 **RETARY OF VETERANS AFFAIRS FOR SUR-**  
5 **VIVORS OF CERTAIN VETERANS RATED TO-**  
6 **TALLY DISABLED AT TIME OF DEATH.**

7 (a) **EXPANSION.**—Section 1318(b) of title 38, United  
8 States Code, is amended by striking “if—” and all that  
9 follows through the period at the end and inserting the  
10 following: “if the disability was continuously rated totally  
11 disabling for a period of not less than one year imme-  
12 diately preceding death.”.

13 (b) **EFFECTIVE DATE.**—The amendment made by  
14 subsection (a) shall apply with respect to deaths occurring  
15 on or after the date of the enactment of this Act.

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