

113TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 3443

To amend titles 38 and 37, United States Code, to expand eligibility for certain caregiver services provided by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, and to modify the Department of Defense special compensation program to make eligible members of the uniformed services with serious injuries or illnesses and to exempt payments of such compensation from taxation, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

OCTOBER 30, 2013

Ms. TITUS (for herself, Mr. HASTINGS of Florida, Mr. HONDA, Ms. SINEMA, Mr. RUPPERSBERGER, Mr. DELANEY, and Ms. SHEA-PORTER) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Armed Services, and in addition to the Committees on Ways and Means and Veterans' Affairs, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

A BILL

To amend titles 38 and 37, United States Code, to expand eligibility for certain caregiver services provided by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, and to modify the Department of Defense special compensation program to make eligible members of the uniformed services with serious injuries or illnesses and to exempt payments of such compensation from taxation, 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,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “Streamlining Support
3 for Veterans and Military Caregivers Act”.

4 **SEC. 2. EXPANSION OF ELIGIBILITY FOR CERTAIN CARE-**
5 **GIVER SERVICES PROVIDED BY THE SEC-**
6 **RETARY OF VETERANS AFFAIRS.**

7 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 1720G of title 38, United
8 States Code, is amended—

9 (1) by striking “family caregiver” each place it
10 appears and inserting “caregiver”;

11 (2) by striking “family caregivers” each place it
12 appears and inserting “caregivers”;

13 (3) in subsection (a)—

14 (A) in the subsection heading, by striking
15 “FAMILY”; and

16 (B) in paragraph (2)(B), by inserting “or
17 illness” after “injury”; and

18 (4) in subsection (d)—

19 (A) by striking paragraphs (2) and (3);
20 and

21 (B) by redesignating paragraph (4) as
22 paragraph (2).

23 (b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 1782(c)(2)
24 of such title is amended by striking “family caregiver” and
25 inserting “caregiver”.

1 **SEC. 3. MODIFICATION OF DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE SPE-**
2 **CIAL COMPENSATION TO MAKE ELIGIBLE**
3 **MEMBERS OF THE UNIFORMED SERVICES**
4 **WITH SERIOUS INJURIES AND ILLNESS AND**
5 **PROVIDE FOR TAX EXEMPTION OF PAY-**
6 **MENTS.**

7 (a) ELIGIBILITY.—

8 (1) IN GENERAL.—Section 439 of title 37,
9 United States Code, is amended—

10 (A) in subsection (b)(1), by striking “cata-
11 strophic” and inserting “serious”; and

12 (B) in subsection (g)—

13 (i) by striking “catastrophic” and in-
14 sserting “serious”; and

15 (ii) in the subsection heading, by
16 striking “CATASTROPHIC” and inserting
17 “SERIOUS”.

18 (2) CLERICAL AMENDMENTS.—

19 (A) SECTION HEADING.—The section
20 heading of such section is amended by striking
21 “**catastrophic**” and inserting “**serious**”.

22 (B) TABLE OF SECTIONS.—The table of
23 sections at the beginning of chapter 7 of such
24 title is amended by striking the item relating to
25 section 439 and inserting the following:

“439. Special compensation: members of the uniformed services with serious injuries or illnesses requiring assistance in everyday living.”.

1 (b) TAX EXEMPT STATUS OF PAYMENTS.—Sub-
2 section (a) of such section is amended by adding at the
3 end the following new sentence: “Payments of compensa-
4 tion under this section shall be exempt from taxation.”.

5 (c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by
6 this section shall apply with respect to payments of special
7 compensation made after the date of the enactment of this
8 Act.

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