

Union Calendar No. 83

115TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1329

[Report No. 115-134]

To increase, effective as of December 1, 2017, the rates of compensation for veterans with service-connected disabilities and the rates of dependency and indemnity compensation for the survivors of certain disabled veterans, to amend title 38, United States Code, to improve the United States Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims, to improve the processing of claims by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 2, 2017

Mr. BOST (for himself and Ms. ESTY) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs

MAY 19, 2017

Additional sponsors: Ms. SHEA-PORTER, Ms. BORDALLO, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. CONNOLLY, Mr. CARSON of Indiana, Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire, Mrs. BEATTY, Ms. LOFGREN, Mr. KILDEE, Mr. BILIRAKIS, and Mr. COSTELLO of Pennsylvania

MAY 19, 2017

Reported with amendments, committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union, and ordered to be printed

[Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert the part printed in *italic*]

[For text of introduced bill, see copy of bill as introduced on March 2, 2017]

A BILL

To increase, effective as of December 1, 2017, the rates of compensation for veterans with service-connected disabilities and the rates of dependency and indemnity compensation for the survivors of certain disabled veterans, to amend title 38, United States Code, to improve the United States Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims, to improve the processing of claims by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, 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’ Compensation*
5 *Cost-of-Living Adjustment Act of 2017”.*

6 **SEC. 2. INCREASE IN RATES OF DISABILITY COMPENSATION**
7 **AND DEPENDENCY AND INDEMNITY COM-**
8 **PENSATION.**

9 (a) *RATE ADJUSTMENT.*—*Effective on December 1,*
10 *2017, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall increase, in*
11 *accordance with subsection (c), the dollar amounts in effect*
12 *on November 30, 2017, for the payment of disability com-*
13 *ensation and dependency and indemnity compensation*
14 *under the provisions specified in subsection (b).*

15 (b) *AMOUNTS TO BE INCREASED.*—*The dollar*
16 *amounts to be increased pursuant to subsection (a) are the*
17 *following:*

18 (1) *WARTIME DISABILITY COMPENSATION.*—*Each*
19 *of the dollar amounts under section 1114 of title 38,*
20 *United States Code.*

21 (2) *ADDITIONAL COMPENSATION FOR DEPEND-*
22 *ENTS.*—*Each of the dollar amounts under section*
23 *1115(1) of such title.*

24 (3) *CLOTHING ALLOWANCE.*—*The dollar amount*
25 *under section 1162 of such title.*

1 (4) *DEPENDENCY AND INDEMNITY COMPENSA-*
2 *TION TO SURVIVING SPOUSE.*—Each of the dollar
3 amounts under subsections (a) through (d) of section
4 1311 of such title.

5 (5) *DEPENDENCY AND INDEMNITY COMPENSA-*
6 *TION TO CHILDREN.*—Each of the dollar amounts
7 under sections 1313(a) and 1314 of such title.

8 (c) *DETERMINATION OF INCREASE.*—Each dollar
9 amount described in subsection (b) shall be increased by the
10 same percentage as the percentage by which benefit amounts
11 payable under title II of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C.
12 401 et seq.) are increased effective December 1, 2017, as a
13 result of a determination under section 215(i) of such Act
14 (42 U.S.C. 415(i)).

15 (d) *SPECIAL RULE.*—The Secretary of Veterans Affairs
16 may adjust administratively, consistent with the increases
17 made under subsection (a), the rates of disability compensa-
18 tion payable to persons under section 10 of Public Law 85–
19 857 (72 Stat. 1263) who have not received compensation
20 under chapter 11 of title 38, United States Code.

21 **SEC. 3. PUBLICATION OF ADJUSTED RATES.**

22 The Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall publish in the
23 Federal Register the amounts specified in section 2(b), as
24 increased under that section, not later than the date on
25 which the matters specified in section 215(i)(2)(D) of the

- 1 *Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 415(i)(2)(D)) are required*
- 2 *to be published by reason of a determination made under*
- 3 *section 215(i) of such Act during fiscal year 2018.*

Amend the title so as to read: “A bill to increase, effective as of December 1, 2017, the rates of compensation for veterans with service-connected disabilities and the rates of dependency and indemnity compensation for the survivors of certain disabled veterans, and for other purposes.”.

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