

118TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 5149

To direct the Secretary of Defense to carry out a pilot program to provide stipends to certain members separating from the Armed Forces.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

AUGUST 4, 2023

Mr. NEGUSE introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Armed Services

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## A BILL

To direct the Secretary of Defense to carry out a pilot program to provide stipends to certain members separating from the Armed Forces.

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. PILOT PROGRAM TO PROVIDE A MONTHLY STI-**  
4 **PEND TO CERTAIN RECENTLY SEPARATED**  
5 **MEMBERS.**

6 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—Not later than 180 days after  
7 the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of  
8 Defense, in consultation with the Secretary of Veterans  
9 Affairs, shall carry out a pilot program to provide a sti-  
10 pend to a covered individual.

1 (b) AMOUNT.—A stipend paid under this section to  
2 a covered individual shall be in an amount that the Sec-  
3 retary determines will pay for one month of food and hous-  
4 ing for the household of such covered individual in the lo-  
5 cation where such household resides.

6 (c) PAYMENTS.—A covered individual shall receive a  
7 stipend under this section once a month for the first four  
8 months following the separation of the covered individual  
9 from the Armed Forces.

10 (d) REPORT.—Not later than one year after the date  
11 of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall submit  
12 to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and  
13 House of Representatives regarding the pilot program.  
14 Such report shall include the following:

15 (1) The number of covered individuals paid a  
16 stipend under this section.

17 (2) The average amount of such a stipend.

18 (3) The effectiveness of the program in miti-  
19 gating financial hardships of covered individuals.

20 (4) A plan to make the pilot program perma-  
21 nent.

22 (5) The recommendation of the Secretary  
23 whether to make the pilot program permanent.

24 (e) TERMINATION.—The pilot program shall termi-  
25 nate after operating for four months.

1 (f) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

2 (1) The term “covered individual” means an in-  
3 dividual—

4 (A) who separates from the Armed Forces  
5 under honorable conditions after at least four  
6 years of service on active duty; and

7 (B) whom the Secretary of Defense deter-  
8 mines will experience financial hardship during  
9 the first 120 days following such separation.

10 (2) The term “dependent” means a dependent  
11 registered under the Defense Enrollment Eligibility  
12 Reporting System.

13 (3) The term “household” means a covered in-  
14 dividual and all dependents of such covered indi-  
15 vidual who share a residence.

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