

118TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 9035

To amend titles 10 and 38, United States Code, and the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2014, to expand eligibility for certain benefits that arise from the death of a member of the Armed Forces, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 15, 2024

Mr. CARBAJAL (for himself and Mr. WALTZ) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Armed Services, and in addition to the Committee on 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 10 and 38, United States Code, and the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2014, to expand eligibility for certain benefits that arise from the death of a member of the Armed Forces, 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 “ROTC and DEP Bene-
5 fits Improvement Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. EXPANSION OF ELIGIBILITY FOR CERTAIN BENE-**
2 **FITS THAT ARISE FROM THE DEATH OF A**
3 **MEMBER OF THE ARMED FORCES.**

4 (a) DEATH GRATUITY.—Section 1475(a)(4) of title
5 10, United States Code, is amended by striking “for a pe-
6 riod of more than 13 days”.

7 (b) RECOVERY, CARE, AND DISPOSITION OF RE-
8 MAINS.—Section 1481(a) of title 10, United States Code,
9 is amended by adding at the end the following new para-
10 graph:

11 “(11) Any person not otherwise covered by this
12 section whose death entitles a survivor of such per-
13 son to a death gratuity under section 1475 of this
14 title.”.

15 (c) SERVICEMEMBERS’ GROUP LIFE INSURANCE.—
16 Section 1965 of title 38, United States Code, is amended,
17 in paragraph (5)—

18 (1) in subparagraph (C), by striking “; and”
19 and inserting a semicolon;

20 (2) in subparagraph (D), by striking “field
21 training or practice cruises” and inserting “ad-
22 vanced training (as such term is defined in section
23 2101 of title 10)”;

24 (3) by redesignating subparagraph (D), as
25 amended, as subparagraph (E); and

1 (4) by inserting, after subparagraph (C), the
2 following new subparagraph (D):

3 “(D) a Reserve—

4 “(i) not otherwise described in this
5 paragraph;

6 “(ii) enlisted under section 513 of
7 title 10; and

8 “(iii) without regard to duty status;
9 and”.

10 (d) ASSISTANCE FROM A CASUALTY ASSISTANCE OF-
11 FICER.—Section 633 of the National Defense Authoriza-
12 tion Act for Fiscal Year 2014 (Public Law 113–66; 10
13 U.S.C. 1475 note) is amended—

14 (1) in subsection (a)—

15 (A) in paragraph (1)—

16 (i) in subparagraph (A), by striking “;
17 and” and inserting a semicolon;

18 (ii) in subparagraph (B), by striking
19 the period at the end and inserting “;
20 and”; and

21 (iii) by adding at the end the fol-
22 lowing new subparagraph:

23 “(C) an individual not described in subpara-
24 graph (A) or (B) who is entitled to a death gratuity

1 under section 1475 of title 10, United States
2 Code.”; and

3 (B) in paragraph (2)—

4 (i) by striking “spouses and depend-
5 ents” each place it appears and inserting
6 “survivors”; and

7 (ii) in subparagraph (A), by striking
8 “spouses and other dependents of deceased
9 members” and inserting “such survivors”;
10 and

11 (2) in subsection (b)(2), by striking “the spouse
12 and other dependents of a deceased member of the
13 Armed Forces” and inserting “such a survivor”.

14 (e) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by
15 this section shall apply to a death that occurs on or after
16 the date of the enactment of this Act.

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