

109TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 805

To amend title 38, United States Code, to increase burial benefits for veterans, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 15, 2005

Ms. BERKLEY (for herself, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, Mr. BOUCHER, Ms. CORRINE BROWN of Florida, Ms. CARSON, Mr. CASE, Mrs. CHRISTENSEN, Mr. COSTELLO, Mr. CROWLEY, Mr. CUMMINGS, Mrs. DAVIS of California, Mr. EVANS, Mr. FILNER, Mr. GORDON, Mr. GUTIERREZ, Mr. HINOJOSA, Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas, Mr. KIND, Ms. LEE, Mr. LEWIS of Georgia, Ms. ZOE LOFGREN of California, Mrs. MCCARTHY, Mr. MCCOTTER, Mr. MCDERMOTT, Mr. MEEKS of New York, Ms. MILLENDER-MCDONALD, Mr. NEAL of Massachusetts, Ms. NORTON, Mr. OWENS, Mr. PALLONE, Mr. PAYNE, Mr. RYAN of Ohio, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. SERRANO, Ms. SOLIS, Mr. STRICKLAND, Mr. STUPAK, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Mr. UDALL of New Mexico, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Ms. WOOLSEY, Mr. WYNN, Mrs. LOWEY, Mr. REYES, Mr. HASTINGS of Florida, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. MORAN of Virginia, Mr. MARKEY, and Mr. LIPINSKI) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs

A BILL

To amend title 38, United States Code, to increase burial benefits for veterans, 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 “Veterans Burial Bene-
3 fits Improvement Act of 2005”.

4 **SEC. 2. INCREASE IN BURIAL BENEFITS FOR VETERANS.**

5 (a) **BURIAL AND FUNERAL EXPENSES.**—(1) Section
6 2302(a) of title 38, United States Code, is amended by
7 striking “\$300” and inserting “\$1,270 (as increased from
8 time to time under section 5312(a) of this title)”.

9 (2) Section 2303(a)(1)(A) of such title is amended
10 by striking “\$300” and inserting “\$1,270 (as increased
11 from time to time under section 5312(a) of this title)”.

12 (3) Section 2307 of such title is amended by striking
13 “\$2,000,” and inserting “\$4,100 (as increased from time
14 to time under section 5312(a) of this title),”.

15 (b) **PLOT ALLOWANCE.**—Section 2303(b) of such
16 title is amended—

17 (1) by striking “\$300” the first place it appears
18 and inserting “\$745 (as increased from time to time
19 under section 5312(a) of this title)”; and

20 (2) by striking “\$300” the second place it ap-
21 pears and inserting “\$745 (as so increased)”.

22 (c) **ANNUAL ADJUSTMENT.**—Section 5312(a) of such
23 title is amended by striking “and each rate of monthly
24 allowance paid under section 1805 of this title,” and in-
25 serting “each rate of monthly allowance paid under section
26 1805 of this title, each rate of burial and funeral expenses

1 provided for under sections 2302(a), 2303(a)(1)(A), and
2 2307 of this title, and each rate of plot allowance provided
3 for under section 2303(b) of this title.”.

4 (d) EFFECTIVE DATE.—(1) Except as provided in
5 paragraph (2), the amendments made by this section shall
6 apply to deaths occurring on or after the date of the enact-
7 ment of this Act.

8 (2) No adjustments shall be made under section
9 5312(a) of title 38, United States Code, as amended by
10 subsection (c), for fiscal year 2006 for rates of burial and
11 funeral expenses provided for under sections 2302(a),
12 2303(a)(1)(A), and 2307 of title 38, United States Code,
13 and each rate of plot allowance provided for under section
14 2303(b) of such title.

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