

Calendar No. 336

110TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 1315

[Report No. 110-148]

To amend title 38, United States Code, to enhance life insurance benefits for disabled veterans, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MAY 7, 2007

Mr. AKAKA introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs

AUGUST 29, 2007

Reported, under authority of the order of the Senate of August 3, 2007, by Mr. AKAKA, with an amendment and an amendment to the title
[Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert the part printed in italic]

A BILL

To amend title 38, United States Code, to enhance life insurance benefits for disabled 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,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 ~~This Act may be cited as the “Disabled Veterans In-~~
5 ~~surance Improvement Act of 2007”.~~

1 **SEC. 2. ENHANCEMENT OF VETERANS' MORTGAGE LIFE IN-**
 2 **SURANCE.**

3 Section 2106(b) of title 38, United States Code, is
 4 amended by striking “\$90,000” and inserting
 5 “\$200,000”.

6 **SEC. 3. LEVEL-PREMIUM TERM LIFE INSURANCE FOR VET-**
 7 **ERANS WITH SERVICE-CONNECTED DISABIL-**
 8 **ITIES.**

9 (a) **IN GENERAL.**—Chapter 19 of title 38, United
 10 States Code, is amended by inserting after section 1922A
 11 the following new section:

12 **“§ 1922B. Level-premium term life insurance for vet-**
 13 **erans with service-connected disabilities**

14 “(a) **IN GENERAL.**—In accordance with the provi-
 15 sions of this section, the Secretary shall grant insurance
 16 to each eligible veteran who seeks such insurance against
 17 the death of such veteran occurring while such insurance
 18 is in force.

19 “(b) **ELIGIBLE VETERANS.**—For purposes of this
 20 section, an eligible veteran is any veteran less than 65
 21 years of age who has a service-connected disability.

22 “(c) **AMOUNT OF INSURANCE.**—(1) Subject to para-
 23 graph (2), the amount of insurance granted an eligible vet-
 24 eran under this section shall be \$50,000 or such lesser
 25 amount as the veteran shall elect. The amount of insur-
 26 ance so elected shall be evenly divisible by \$10,000.

1 “(2) The aggregate amount of insurance of an eligible
2 veteran under this section, section 1922 of this title, and
3 section 1922A of this title may not exceed \$50,000.

4 “(d) REDUCED AMOUNT FOR VETERANS AGE 70 OR
5 OLDER.—In the case of a veteran insured under this sec-
6 tion who turns age 70, the amount of insurance of such
7 veteran under this section after the date such veteran
8 turns age 70 shall be the amount equal to 20 percent of
9 the amount of insurance of the veteran under this section
10 as of the day before such date.

11 “(e) PREMIUMS.—(1) Premium rates for insurance
12 under this section shall be based on the 2001 Commis-
13 sioners Standard Ordinary Basic Table of Mortality and
14 interest at the rate of 4.5 per centum per annum.

15 “(2) The amount of the premium charged a veteran
16 for insurance under this section may not increase while
17 such insurance is in force for such veteran.

18 “(3) The Secretary may not charge a premium for
19 insurance under this section for a veteran as follows:

20 “(A) A veteran who has a service-connected dis-
21 ability rated as total and is eligible for a waiver of
22 premiums under section 1912 of this title.

23 “(B) A veteran who is 70 years of age or older.

24 “(4) Insurance granted under this section shall be on
25 a nonparticipating basis and all premiums and other col-

1 lections therefor shall be credited directly to a revolving
2 fund in the Treasury of the United States, and any pay-
3 ments on such insurance shall be made directly from such
4 fund. Appropriations to such fund are hereby authorized.

5 “(5) Administrative costs to the Government for the
6 costs of the program of insurance under this section shall
7 be paid from premiums credited to the fund under para-
8 graph (4), and payments for claims against the fund
9 under paragraph (4) for amounts in excess of amounts
10 credited to such fund under that paragraph (after such
11 administrative costs have been paid) shall be paid from
12 appropriations to the fund.

13 “(f) APPLICATION REQUIRED.—An eligible veteran
14 seeking insurance under this section shall file with the
15 Secretary an application therefor. Such application shall
16 be filed not later than the earlier of—

17 “(1) the end of the two-year period beginning
18 on the date on which the Secretary notifies the vet-
19 eran that the veteran has a service-connected dis-
20 ability; and

21 “(2) the end of the 10-year period beginning on
22 the date of the separation of the veteran from the
23 Armed Forces, whichever is earlier.”.

24 (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections
25 at the beginning of chapter 19 of such title is amended

1 by inserting after the item related to section 1922A the
 2 following new item:

“1922B. Level-premium term life insurance for veterans with service-connected
 disabilities.”.

3 (e) **EXCHANGE OF SERVICE DISABLED VETERANS’**
 4 **INSURANCE.**—During the one-year period beginning on
 5 the date of the enactment of this Act, any veteran insured
 6 under section 1922 of title 38, United States Code, who
 7 is eligible for insurance under section 1922B of title 38,
 8 United States Code (as added by subsection (a)), may ex-
 9 change insurance coverage under such section 1922 for
 10 insurance coverage under such section 1922B.

11 **SEC. 4. ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS OF SERVICE DISABLED**
 12 **VETERANS’ INSURANCE.**

13 Section 1922(a) of title 38, United States Code, is
 14 amended by striking “date of such insurance” and insert-
 15 ing “date of such insurance; (5) administrative costs to
 16 the Government for the costs of the program of insurance
 17 under this section shall be paid from premiums credited
 18 to the fund under paragraph (4), and payments for claims
 19 against the fund under paragraph (4) for amounts in ex-
 20 cess of amounts credited to such fund under that para-
 21 graph (after such administrative costs have been paid)
 22 shall be paid from appropriations to the fund”.

1 **SEC. 5. MODIFICATION OF SERVICEMEMBERS' GROUP LIFE**
 2 **INSURANCE COVERAGE.**

3 (a) **EXPANSION OF SERVICEMEMBERS' GROUP LIFE**
 4 **INSURANCE TO INCLUDE CERTAIN MEMBERS OF INDI-**
 5 **VIDUAL READY RESERVE.—**

6 (1) **IN GENERAL.—**Paragraph (1)(C) of section
 7 1967(a) of title 38, United States Code, is amended
 8 by striking “section 1965(5)(B) of this title” and in-
 9 serting “subparagraph (B) or (C) of section 1965(5)
 10 of this title”.

11 (2) **CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—**Paragraph
 12 (5)(C) of such section 1967(a) is amended by strik-
 13 ing “section 1965(5)(B) of this title” and inserting
 14 “subparagraph (B) or (C) of section 1965(5) of this
 15 title”.

16 (b) **REDUCTION IN PERIOD OF COVERAGE FOR DE-**
 17 **PENDENTS AFTER MEMBER SEPARATES.—**Section
 18 1968(a)(5)(B)(ii) of such title is amended by striking
 19 “120 days after”.

20 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.**

21 (a) *SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the “Vet-*
 22 *erans’ Benefits Enhancement Act of 2007”.*

23 (b) *TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents for*
 24 *this Act is as follows:*

Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.

Sec. 2. Reference to title 38, United States Code.

TITLE I—INSURANCE MATTERS

- Sec. 101. Level-premium term life insurance for veterans with service-connected disabilities.*
- Sec. 102. Administrative costs of service disabled veterans' insurance.*
- Sec. 103. Modification of servicemembers' group life insurance coverage.*
- Sec. 104. Supplemental insurance for totally disabled veterans.*
- Sec. 105. Expansion of individuals qualifying for retroactive benefits from traumatic injury protection coverage under Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance.*
- Sec. 106. Consideration of loss dominant hand in prescription of schedule of severity of traumatic injury under Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance.*
- Sec. 107. Designation of fiduciary for traumatic injury protection coverage under Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance in case of lost mental capacity or extended loss of consciousness.*
- Sec. 108. Enhancement of veterans' mortgage life insurance.*

TITLE II—HOUSING MATTERS

- Sec. 201. Home improvements and structural alterations for totally disabled members of the Armed Forces before discharge or release from the Armed Forces.*
- Sec. 202. Eligibility for specially adapted housing benefits and assistance for members of the Armed Forces with service-connected disabilities and individuals residing outside the United States.*
- Sec. 203. Specially adapted housing assistance for individuals with severe burn injuries.*
- Sec. 204. Extension of assistance for individuals residing temporarily in housing owned by a family member.*
- Sec. 205. Supplemental specially adapted housing benefits for disabled veterans.*
- Sec. 206. Report on specially adapted housing for disabled individuals.*
- Sec. 207. Report on specially adapted housing assistance for individuals who reside in housing owned by a family member on permanent basis.*

TITLE III—LABOR AND EDUCATION MATTERS

- Sec. 301. Coordination of approval activities in the administration of education benefits.*
- Sec. 302. Modification of rate of reimbursement of State and local agencies administering veterans education benefits.*
- Sec. 303. Waiver of residency requirement for Directors for Veterans' Employment and Training.*
- Sec. 304. Modification of special unemployment study to cover veterans of Post 9/11 Global Operations.*
- Sec. 305. Extension of increase in benefit for individuals pursuing apprenticeship or on-job training.*

TITLE IV—FILIPINO WORLD WAR II VETERANS MATTERS

- Sec. 401. Expansion of eligibility for benefits provided by Department of Veterans Affairs for certain service in the organized military forces of the Commonwealth of the Philippines and the Philippine Scouts.*
- Sec. 402. Eligibility of children of certain Philippine veterans for educational assistance.*

TITLE V—COURT MATTERS

- Sec. 501. Recall of retired judges of the United States Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims.*
- Sec. 502. Additional discretion in imposition of practice and registration fees.*
- Sec. 503. Annual reports on workload of United States Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims.*
- Sec. 504. Report on expansion of facilities for United States Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims.*

TITLE VI—COMPENSATION AND PENSION MATTERS

- Sec. 601. Addition of osteoporosis to disabilities presumed to be service-connected in former prisoners of war with post-traumatic stress disorder.*
- Sec. 602. Cost-of-living increase for temporary dependency and indemnity compensation payable for surviving spouses with dependent children under the age of 18.*
- Sec. 603. Clarification of eligibility of veterans 65 years of age or older for service pension for a period of war.*

TITLE VII—BURIAL AND MEMORIAL MATTERS

- Sec. 701. Supplemental benefits for veterans for funeral and burial expenses.*
- Sec. 702. Supplemental plot allowances.*

TITLE VIII—OTHER MATTERS

- Sec. 801. Eligibility of disabled veterans and members of the Armed Forces with severe burn injuries for automobiles and adaptive equipment.*
- Sec. 802. Supplemental assistance for providing automobiles or other conveyances to certain disabled veterans.*
- Sec. 803. Clarification of purpose of the outreach services program of the Department of Veterans Affairs.*
- Sec. 804. Termination or suspension of contracts for cellular telephone service for servicemembers undergoing deployment outside the United States.*
- Sec. 805. Maintenance, management, and availability for research of assets of Air Force Health Study.*
- Sec. 806. National Academies study on risk of developing multiple sclerosis as a result of certain service in the Persian Gulf War and Post 9/11 Global Operations theaters.*
- Sec. 807. Comptroller General report on adequacy of dependency and indemnity compensation to maintain survivors of veterans who die from service-connected disabilities.*

1 **SEC. 2. REFERENCE TO TITLE 38, UNITED STATES CODE.**

2 *Except as otherwise expressly provided, whenever in*
 3 *this Act an amendment or repeal is expressed in terms of*
 4 *an amendment to, or repeal of, a section or other provision,*
 5 *the reference shall be considered to be made to a section or*
 6 *other provision of title 38, United States Code.*

1 **TITLE I—INSURANCE MATTERS**

2 **SEC. 101. LEVEL-PREMIUM TERM LIFE INSURANCE FOR VET-**
 3 **ERANS WITH SERVICE-CONNECTED DISABIL-**
 4 **ITIES.**

5 (a) *IN GENERAL.*—Chapter 19 is amended by insert-
 6 ing after section 1922A the following new section:

7 **“§ 1922B. Level-premium term life insurance for vet-**
 8 **erans with service-connected disabilities**

9 “(a) *IN GENERAL.*—In accordance with the provisions
 10 of this section, the Secretary shall grant insurance to each
 11 eligible veteran who seeks such insurance against the death
 12 of such veteran occurring while such insurance is in force.

13 “(b) *ELIGIBLE VETERANS.*—For purposes of this sec-
 14 tion, an eligible veteran is any veteran less than 65 years
 15 of age who has a service-connected disability.

16 “(c) *AMOUNT OF INSURANCE.*—(1) Subject to para-
 17 graph (2), the amount of insurance granted an eligible vet-
 18 eran under this section shall be \$50,000 or such lesser
 19 amount as the veteran shall elect. The amount of insurance
 20 so elected shall be evenly divisible by \$10,000.

21 “(2) The aggregate amount of insurance of an eligible
 22 veteran under this section, section 1922 of this title, and
 23 section 1922A of this title may not exceed \$50,000.

24 “(d) *REDUCED AMOUNT FOR VETERANS AGE 70 OR*
 25 *OLDER.*—In the case of a veteran insured under this section

1 *who turns age 70, the amount of insurance of such veteran*
2 *under this section after the date such veteran turns age 70*
3 *shall be the amount equal to 20 percent of the amount of*
4 *insurance of the veteran under this section as of the day*
5 *before such date.*

6 “(e) *PREMIUMS.—(1) Premium rates for insurance*
7 *under this section shall be based on the 2001 Commissioners*
8 *Standard Ordinary Basic Table of Mortality and interest*
9 *at the rate of 4.5 per centum per annum.*

10 “(2) *The amount of the premium charged a veteran*
11 *for insurance under this section may not increase while*
12 *such insurance is in force for such veteran.*

13 “(3) *The Secretary may not charge a premium for in-*
14 *surance under this section for a veteran as follows:*

15 “(A) *A veteran who has a service-connected dis-*
16 *ability rated as total and is eligible for a waiver of*
17 *premiums under section 1912 of this title.*

18 “(B) *A veteran who is 70 years of age or older.*

19 “(4) *Insurance granted under this section shall be on*
20 *a nonparticipating basis and all premiums and other col-*
21 *lections therefor shall be credited directly to a revolving*
22 *fund in the Treasury of the United States, and any pay-*
23 *ments on such insurance shall be made directly from such*
24 *fund. Appropriations to such fund are hereby authorized.*

1 “(5) *Administrative costs to the Government for the*
 2 *costs of the program of insurance under this section shall*
 3 *be paid from premiums credited to the fund under para-*
 4 *graph (4), and payments for claims against the fund under*
 5 *paragraph (4) for amounts in excess of amounts credited*
 6 *to such fund under that paragraph (after such administra-*
 7 *tive costs have been paid) shall be paid from appropriations*
 8 *to the fund.*

9 “(f) *APPLICATION REQUIRED.—An eligible veteran*
 10 *seeking insurance under this section shall file with the Sec-*
 11 *retary an application therefor. Such application shall be*
 12 *filed not later than the earlier of—*

13 “(1) *the end of the two-year period beginning on*
 14 *the date on which the Secretary notifies the veteran*
 15 *that the veteran has a service-connected disability;*
 16 *and*

17 “(2) *the end of the 10-year period beginning on*
 18 *the date of the separation of the veteran from the*
 19 *Armed Forces, whichever is earlier.”.*

20 “(b) *CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections at*
 21 *the beginning of chapter 19 is amended by inserting after*
 22 *the item related to section 1922A the following new item:*

“1922B. Level-premium term life insurance for veterans with service-connected disabilities.”.

23 “(c) *EXCHANGE OF SERVICE DISABLED VETERANS’ IN-*
 24 *SURANCE.—During the one-year period beginning on the ef-*

1 *fective date of this section under subsection (d), any veteran*
 2 *insured under section 1922 of title 38, United States Code,*
 3 *who is eligible for insurance under section 1922B of such*
 4 *title (as added by subsection (a)), may exchange insurance*
 5 *coverage under such section 1922 for insurance coverage*
 6 *under such section 1922B.*

7 *(d) EFFECTIVE DATE.—This section, and the amend-*
 8 *ments made by this section, shall take effect on June 1,*
 9 *2008.*

10 **SEC. 102. ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS OF SERVICE DISABLED**
 11 **VETERANS' INSURANCE.**

12 *Section 1922(a) is amended by striking “directly from*
 13 *such fund” and inserting “directly from such fund; and (5)*
 14 *administrative costs to the Government for the costs of the*
 15 *program of insurance under this section shall be paid from*
 16 *premiums credited to the fund under paragraph (4), and*
 17 *payments for claims against the fund under paragraph (4)*
 18 *for amounts in excess of amounts credited to such fund*
 19 *under that paragraph (after such administrative costs have*
 20 *been paid) shall be paid from appropriations to the fund”.*

21 **SEC. 103. MODIFICATION OF SERVICEMEMBERS' GROUP**
 22 **LIFE INSURANCE COVERAGE.**

23 *(a) EXPANSION OF SERVICEMEMBERS' GROUP LIFE*
 24 *INSURANCE TO INCLUDE CERTAIN MEMBERS OF INDI-*
 25 *VIDUAL READY RESERVE.—*

1 *mined by the Secretary concerned, that loss was a direct*
 2 *result of a traumatic injury incurred in the theater of oper-*
 3 *ations for Operation Enduring Freedom or Operation Iraqi*
 4 *Freedom”.*

5 (b) *CONFORMING AMENDMENT.*—*The heading of such*
 6 *section is amended by striking “IN OPERATION ENDURING*
 7 *FREEDOM AND OPERATION IRAQI FREEDOM”.*

8 (c) *EFFECTIVE DATE.*—*The amendments made by this*
 9 *section shall take effect on January 1, 2008.*

10 **SEC. 106. CONSIDERATION OF LOSS DOMINANT HAND IN**
 11 **PRESCRIPTION OF SCHEDULE OF SEVERITY**
 12 **OF TRAUMATIC INJURY UNDER**
 13 **SERVICEMEMBERS’ GROUP LIFE INSURANCE.**

14 (a) *IN GENERAL.*—*Section 1980A(d) is amended—*

15 (1) *by striking “Payments under” and inserting*
 16 *“(1) Payments under”; and*

17 (2) *by adding at the end the following new para-*
 18 *graph:*

19 *“(2) As the Secretary considers appropriate, the sched-*
 20 *ule required by paragraph (1) may distinguish in speci-*
 21 *fying payments for qualifying losses between the severity*
 22 *of a qualifying loss of a dominant hand and a qualifying*
 23 *loss of a non-dominant hand.”.*

24 (b) *PAYMENTS FOR QUALIFYING LOSSES INCURRED*
 25 *BEFORE DATE OF ENACTMENT.*—

1 (1) *IN GENERAL.*—*The Secretary of Veterans Af-*
 2 *fairs shall prescribe in regulations mechanisms for*
 3 *payments under section 1980A of title 38, United*
 4 *States Code, for qualifying losses incurred before the*
 5 *date of the enactment of this Act by reason of the re-*
 6 *quirements of paragraph (2) of subsection (d) of such*
 7 *section (as amended by subsection (a)(2) of this sec-*
 8 *tion).*

9 (2) *QUALIFYING LOSS DEFINED.*—*In this sub-*
 10 *section, the term “qualifying loss” means—*

11 (A) *a loss specified in the second sentence of*
 12 *subsection (b)(1) of section 1980A of title 38,*
 13 *United States Code; and*

14 (B) *any other loss specified by the Secretary*
 15 *of Veterans Affairs pursuant to the first sentence*
 16 *of that subsection.*

17 **SEC. 107. DESIGNATION OF FIDUCIARY FOR TRAUMATIC IN-**
 18 **JURY PROTECTION COVERAGE UNDER**
 19 **SERVICEMEMBERS’ GROUP LIFE INSURANCE**
 20 **IN CASE OF LOST MENTAL CAPACITY OR EX-**
 21 **TENDED LOSS OF CONSCIOUSNESS.**

22 (a) *IN GENERAL.*—*The Secretary of Defense shall, in*
 23 *consultation with the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, develop*
 24 *a form for the designation of a recipient for the funds dis-*
 25 *tributed under section 1980A of title 38, United States*

1 Code, as the fiduciary of a member of the Armed Forces
2 in cases where the member is mentally incapacitated (as
3 determined by the Secretary of Defense in consultation with
4 the Secretary of Veterans Affairs) or experiencing an ex-
5 tended loss of consciousness.

6 (b) *ELEMENTS.*—The form under subsection (a) shall
7 require that a member may elect that—

8 (1) an individual designated by the member be
9 the recipient as the fiduciary of the member; or

10 (2) a court of proper jurisdiction determine the
11 recipient as the fiduciary of the member for purposes
12 of this subsection.

13 (c) *COMPLETION AND UPDATE.*—The form under sub-
14 section (a) shall be completed by an individual at the time
15 of entry into the Armed Forces and updated periodically
16 thereafter.

17 **SEC. 108. ENHANCEMENT OF VETERANS' MORTGAGE LIFE**
18 **INSURANCE.**

19 Section 2106(b) is amended by striking “\$90,000” and
20 inserting “\$150,000, or \$200,000 after January 1, 2012,”.

1 **TITLE II—HOUSING MATTERS**

2 **SEC. 201. HOME IMPROVEMENTS AND STRUCTURAL ALTER-**
3 **ATIONS FOR TOTALLY DISABLED MEMBERS**
4 **OF THE ARMED FORCES BEFORE DISCHARGE**
5 **OR RELEASE FROM THE ARMED FORCES.**

6 *Section 1717 is amended by adding at the end the fol-*
7 *lowing new subsection:*

8 “(d)(1) *In the case of a member of the Armed Forces*
9 *who, as determined by the Secretary, has a disability per-*
10 *manent in nature incurred or aggravated in the line of duty*
11 *in the active military, naval, or air service, the Secretary*
12 *may furnish improvements and structural alterations for*
13 *such member for such disability or as otherwise described*
14 *in subsection (a)(2) while such member is hospitalized or*
15 *receiving outpatient medical care, services, or treatment for*
16 *such disability if the Secretary determines that such mem-*
17 *ber is likely to be discharged or released from the Armed*
18 *Forces for such disability.*

19 “(2) *The furnishing of improvements and alterations*
20 *under paragraph (1) in connection with the furnishing of*
21 *medical services described in subparagraph (A) or (B) of*
22 *subsection (a)(2) shall be subject to the limitation specified*
23 *in the applicable subparagraph.”.*

1 **SEC. 202. ELIGIBILITY FOR SPECIALLY ADAPTED HOUSING**
2 **BENEFITS AND ASSISTANCE FOR MEMBERS**
3 **OF THE ARMED FORCES WITH SERVICE-CON-**
4 **NECTED DISABILITIES AND INDIVIDUALS RE-**
5 **SIDING OUTSIDE THE UNITED STATES.**

6 (a) *ELIGIBILITY.*—Chapter 21 is amended by inserting
7 after section 2101 the following new section:

8 **“§2101A. Eligibility for benefits and assistance: mem-**
9 **bers of the Armed Forces with service-con-**
10 **nected disabilities; individuals residing**
11 **outside the United States**

12 “(a) *MEMBERS WITH SERVICE-CONNECTED DISABIL-*
13 *ITIES.*—(1) *The Secretary may provide assistance under*
14 *this chapter to a member of the Armed Forces serving on*
15 *active duty who is suffering from a disability that meets*
16 *applicable criteria for benefits under this chapter if the dis-*
17 *ability is incurred or aggravated in line of duty in the ac-*
18 *tive military, naval, or air service. Such assistance shall*
19 *be provided to the same extent as assistance is provided*
20 *under this chapter to veterans eligible for assistance under*
21 *this chapter and subject to the same requirements as vet-*
22 *erans under this chapter.*

23 “(2) *For purposes of this chapter, any reference to a*
24 *veteran or eligible individual shall be treated as a reference*
25 *to a member of the Armed Forces described in subsection*

1 *(a) who is similarly situated to the veteran or other eligible*
 2 *individual so referred to.*

3 “(b) *BENEFITS AND ASSISTANCE FOR INDIVIDUALS*
 4 *RESIDING OUTSIDE THE UNITED STATES.*—(1) *Subject to*
 5 *paragraph (2), the Secretary may, at the Secretary’s discre-*
 6 *tion, provide benefits and assistance under this chapter*
 7 *(other than benefits under section 2106 of this title) to any*
 8 *individual otherwise eligible for such benefits and assistance*
 9 *who resides outside the United States.*

10 “(2) *The Secretary may provide benefits and assist-*
 11 *ance to an individual under paragraph (1) only if—*

12 “(A) *the country or political subdivision in*
 13 *which the housing or residence involved is or will be*
 14 *located permits the individual to have or acquire a*
 15 *beneficial property interest (as determined by the Sec-*
 16 *retary) in such housing or residence; and*

17 “(B) *the individual has or will acquire a bene-*
 18 *ficial property interest (as so determined) in such*
 19 *housing or residence.*

20 “(c) *REGULATIONS.*—*Benefits and assistance under*
 21 *this chapter by reason of this section shall be provided in*
 22 *accordance with such regulations as the Secretary may pre-*
 23 *scribe.”.*

24 (b) *CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.*—

1 (1) *REPEAL OF SUPERSEDED AUTHORITY.*—*Sec-*
2 *tion 2101 is amended—*

3 (A) *by striking subsection (c); and*

4 (B) *by redesignating subsection (d) as sub-*
5 *section (c).*

6 (2) *LIMITATIONS ON ASSISTANCE.*—*Section 2102*
7 *is amended—*

8 (A) *in subsection (a)—*

9 (i) *by striking “veteran” each place it*
10 *appears and inserting “individual”; and*

11 (ii) *in paragraph (3), by striking “vet-*
12 *eran’s” and inserting “individual’s”;*

13 (B) *in subsection (b)(1), by striking “a vet-*
14 *eran” and inserting “an individual”;*

15 (C) *in subsection (c)—*

16 (i) *by striking “a veteran” and insert-*
17 *ing “an individual”; and*

18 (ii) *by striking “the veteran” each*
19 *place it appears and inserting “the indi-*
20 *vidual”; and*

21 (D) *in subsection (d), by striking “a vet-*
22 *eran” each place it appears and inserting “an*
23 *individual”.*

1 (3) *ASSISTANCE FOR INDIVIDUALS TEMPORARILY*
2 *RESIDING IN HOUSING OF FAMILY MEMBER.*—Section
3 *2102A is amended—*

4 (A) *by striking “veteran” each place it ap-*
5 *pears (other than in subsection (b)) and insert-*
6 *ing “individual”;*

7 (B) *in subsection (a), by striking “vet-*
8 *eran’s” each place it appears and inserting “in-*
9 *dividual’s”;* and

10 (C) *in subsection (b), by striking “a vet-*
11 *eran” each place it appears and inserting “an*
12 *individual”.*

13 (4) *FURNISHING OF PLANS AND SPECIFICA-*
14 *TIONS.*—Section *2103 is amended by striking “vet-*
15 *erans” both places it appears and inserting “individ-*
16 *uals”.*

17 (5) *CONSTRUCTION OF BENEFITS.*—Section *2104*
18 *is amended—*

19 (A) *in subsection (a), by striking “veteran”*
20 *each place it appears and inserting “indi-*
21 *vidual”;* and

22 (B) *in subsection (b)—*

23 (i) *in the first sentence, by striking “A*
24 *veteran” and inserting “An individual”;*

1 (ii) in the second sentence, by striking
2 “a veteran” and inserting “an individual”;
3 and

4 (iii) by striking “such veteran” each
5 place it appears and inserting “such indi-
6 vidual”.

7 (6) *VETERANS’ MORTGAGE LIFE INSURANCE.*—

8 Section 2106 is amended—

9 (A) in subsection (a)—

10 (i) by striking “any eligible veteran”
11 and inserting “any eligible individual”;
12 and

13 (ii) by striking “the veterans’” and in-
14 serting “the individual’s”;

15 (B) in subsection (b), by striking “an eligi-
16 ble veteran” and inserting “an eligible indi-
17 vidual”;

18 (C) in subsection (e), by striking “an eligi-
19 ble veteran” and inserting “an individual”;

20 (D) in subsection (h), by striking “each vet-
21 eran” and inserting “each individual”;

22 (E) in subsection (i), by striking “the vet-
23 eran’s” each place it appears and inserting “the
24 individual’s”;

1 (F) by striking “the veteran” each place it
2 appears and inserting “the individual”; and

3 (G) by striking “a veteran” each place it
4 appears and inserting “an individual”.

5 (7) *HEADING AMENDMENTS.*—(A) *The heading of*
6 *section 2101 is amended to read as follows:*

7 **“§2101. Acquisition and adaptation of housing: eligi-**
8 **ble veterans”.**

9 (B) *The heading of section 2102A is amended to*
10 *read as follows:*

11 **“§2102A. Assistance for individuals residing tempo-**
12 **rarily in housing owned by a family mem-**
13 **ber”.**

14 (8) *CLERICAL AMENDMENTS.*—*The table of sec-*
15 *tions at the beginning of chapter 21 is amended—*

16 (A) *by striking the item relating to section*
17 *2101 and inserting the following new item:*

 “2101. *Acquisition and adaptation of housing: eligible veterans.*”;

18 (B) *by inserting after the item relating to*
19 *section 2101, as so amended, the following new*
20 *item:*

 “2101A. *Eligibility for benefits and assistance: members of the Armed Forces with*
 service-connected disabilities; individuals residing outside the
 United States.”;

21 *and*

22 (C) *by striking the item relating to section*
23 *2102A and inserting the following new item:*

“2102A. Assistance for individuals residing temporarily in housing owned by a family member.”.

1 **SEC. 203. SPECIALLY ADAPTED HOUSING ASSISTANCE FOR**
 2 **INDIVIDUALS WITH SEVERE BURN INJURIES.**

3 *Section 2101 is amended—*

4 *(1) in subsection (a)(2), by adding at the end the*
 5 *following new subparagraph:*

6 *“(E) The disability is due to a severe burn in-*
 7 *jury (as determined pursuant to regulations pre-*
 8 *scribed by the Secretary).”;* and

9 *(2) in subsection (b)(2)—*

10 *(A) by striking “either” and inserting*
 11 *“any”; and*

12 *(B) by adding at the end the following new*
 13 *subparagraph:*

14 *“(C) The disability is due to a severe burn in-*
 15 *jury (as so determined).”.*

16 **SEC. 204. EXTENSION OF ASSISTANCE FOR INDIVIDUALS**
 17 **RESIDING TEMPORARILY IN HOUSING OWNED**
 18 **BY A FAMILY MEMBER.**

19 *Section 2102A(e) is amended by striking “after the end*
 20 *of the five-year period that begins on the date of the enact-*
 21 *ment of the Veterans’ Housing Opportunity and Benefits*
 22 *Improvement Act of 2006” and inserting “after December*
 23 *31, 2011”.*

1 **SEC. 205. SUPPLEMENTAL SPECIALLY ADAPTED HOUSING**
2 **BENEFITS FOR DISABLED VETERANS.**

3 (a) *IN GENERAL.*—Chapter 21 is amended by insert-
4 ing after section 2102A the following new section:

5 **“§2102B. Supplemental assistance**

6 “(a) *IN GENERAL.*—(1) Subject to the availability of
7 funds specifically provided for purposes of this subsection
8 in advance in an appropriations Act, whenever the Sec-
9 retary makes a payment in accordance with section 2102
10 of this title to an individual authorized to receive such as-
11 sistance under section 2101 of this title for the acquisition
12 of housing with special features or for special adaptations
13 to a residence, the Secretary is also authorized and directed
14 to pay such individual supplemental assistance under this
15 section for such acquisition or adaptation.

16 “(2) No supplemental assistance payment shall be
17 made under this subsection if the Secretary has expended
18 all funds that were specifically provided for purposes of this
19 subsection in an appropriations Act.

20 “(b) *AMOUNT OF SUPPLEMENTAL ASSISTANCE.*—(1)
21 In the case of a payment made in accordance with section
22 2102(a) of this title, supplemental assistance required by
23 subsection (a) is equal to the excess of—

24 “(A) the payment which would be determined
25 under section 2102(a) of this title, and 2102A of this
26 title if applicable, if the amount described in section

1 2102(d)(1) of this title were increased to the adjusted
2 amount described in subsection (c)(1), over

3 “(B) the payment determined without regard to
4 this section.

5 “(2) In the case of a payment made in accordance with
6 section 2102(b) of this title, supplemental assistance re-
7 quired by subsection (a) is equal to the excess of—

8 “(A) the payment which would be determined
9 under section 2102(b) of this title, and 2102A of this
10 title if applicable, if the amount described in section
11 2102(b)(2) of this title and section 2102(d)(2) of this
12 title were increased to the adjusted amount described
13 in subsection (c)(2), over

14 “(B) the payment determined without regard to
15 this section.

16 “(c) *ADJUSTED AMOUNT.*—(1) In the case of a pay-
17 ment made in accordance with section 2102(a) of this title,
18 the adjusted amount is \$60,000 (as adjusted from time to
19 time under subsection (d)).

20 “(2) In the case of a payment made in accordance with
21 section 2102(b) of this title, the adjusted amount is \$12,000
22 (as adjusted from time to time under subsection (d)).

23 “(d) *ADJUSTMENT.*—(1) Effective on October 1 of each
24 year (beginning in 2008), the Secretary shall increase the

1 *adjusted amounts described in subsection (c) in accordance*
2 *with this subsection.*

3 “(2) *The increase in amounts under paragraph (1) to*
4 *take effect on October 1 of any year shall be the percentage*
5 *by which (A) the residential home cost-of-construction index*
6 *for the preceding calendar year exceeds (B) the residential*
7 *home cost-of-construction index for the year preceding that*
8 *year.*

9 “(3) *The Secretary shall establish a residential home*
10 *cost-of-construction index for the purposes of this subsection.*
11 *The index shall reflect a uniform, national average increase*
12 *in the cost of residential home construction, determined on*
13 *a calendar year basis. The Secretary may use an index de-*
14 *veloped in the private sector that the Secretary determines*
15 *is appropriate for purposes of this subsection.*

16 “(e) *ESTIMATES.—(1) From time to time, the Sec-*
17 *retary shall make an estimate of—*

18 “(A) *the amount of funding that would be nec-*
19 *essary to provide supplemental assistance under this*
20 *section to all eligible recipients for the remainder of*
21 *the fiscal year in which such an estimate is made;*
22 *and*

23 “(B) *the amount that Congress would need to*
24 *appropriate to provide all eligible recipients with*

1 *supplemental assistance under this section in the next*
 2 *fiscal year.*

3 “(2) *On the dates described in paragraph (3), the Sec-*
 4 *retary shall submit to the appropriate committees of Con-*
 5 *gress the estimates described in paragraph (1).*

6 “(3) *The dates described in this paragraph are the fol-*
 7 *lowing:*

8 “(A) *April 1 of each year.*

9 “(B) *July 1 of each year.*

10 “(C) *September 1 of each year.*

11 “(D) *The date that is 60 days before the date es-*
 12 *timated by the Secretary on which amounts appro-*
 13 *priated for the purposes of this section for a fiscal*
 14 *year will be exhausted.*

15 “(f) *APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES OF CONGRESS DE-*
 16 *FINED.—In this section, the term ‘appropriate committees*
 17 *of Congress’ means—*

18 “(1) *the Committee on Appropriations and the*
 19 *Committee on Veterans’ Affairs of the Senate; and*

20 “(2) *the Committee on Appropriations and the*
 21 *Committee on Veterans’ Affairs of the House of Rep-*
 22 *resentatives.”.*

23 “(b) *CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections at*
 24 *the beginning of such chapter is amended by inserting after*
 25 *the item related to section 2102A the following new item:*

“2102B. *Supplemental assistance.”.*

1 (c) *AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.*—*There are*
2 *authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary of Veterans*
3 *Affairs such sums as may be necessary to carry out the pro-*
4 *visions of section 2102B of title 38, United States Code (as*
5 *added by subsection (a)).*

6 (d) *EFFECTIVE DATE.*—*The amendments made by this*
7 *section shall take effect on October 1, 2007, and shall apply*
8 *with respect to payments made in accordance with section*
9 *2102 of title 38, United States Code, on or after that date.*

10 **SEC. 206. REPORT ON SPECIALLY ADAPTED HOUSING FOR**
11 **DISABLED INDIVIDUALS.**

12 (a) *IN GENERAL.*—*Not later than December 31, 2008,*
13 *the Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall submit to the Com-*
14 *mittee on Veterans' Affairs of the Senate and the Committee*
15 *on Veterans' Affairs of the House of Representatives a report*
16 *that contains an assessment of the adequacy of the authori-*
17 *ties available to the Secretary under law to assist eligible*
18 *disabled individuals in acquiring—*

19 (1) *suitable housing units with special fixtures*
20 *or movable facilities required for their disabilities,*
21 *and necessary land therefor;*

22 (2) *such adaptations to their residences as are*
23 *reasonably necessary because of their disabilities; and*

1 (3) residences already adapted with special fea-
2 tures determined by the Secretary to be reasonably
3 necessary as a result of their disabilities.

4 (b) *FOCUS ON PARTICULAR DISABILITIES.*—The report
5 required by subsection (a) shall set forth a specific assess-
6 ment of the needs of—

7 (1) veterans who have disabilities that are not
8 described in subsections (a)(2) and (b)(2) of section
9 2101 of title 38, United States Code; and

10 (2) other disabled individuals eligible for spe-
11 cially adapted housing under chapter 21 of such title
12 by reason of section 2101A of such title (as added by
13 section 202(a) of this Act) who have disabilities that
14 are not described in such subsections.

15 **SEC. 207. REPORT ON SPECIALLY ADAPTED HOUSING AS-**
16 **SISTANCE FOR INDIVIDUALS WHO RESIDE IN**
17 **HOUSING OWNED BY A FAMILY MEMBER ON**
18 **PERMANENT BASIS.**

19 Not later than December 31, 2008, the Secretary of Vet-
20 erans Affairs shall submit to the Committee on Veterans'
21 Affairs of the Senate and the Committee on Veterans' Af-
22 fairs of the House of Representatives a report on the advis-
23 ability of providing assistance under section 2102A of title
24 38, United States Code, to veterans described in subsection
25 (a) of such section, and to members of the Armed Forces

1 covered by such section 2102A by reason of section 2101A
 2 of title 38, United States Code (as added by section 202(a)
 3 of this Act), who reside with family members on a perma-
 4 nent basis.

5 **TITLE III—LABOR AND**
 6 **EDUCATION MATTERS**

7 **SEC. 301. COORDINATION OF APPROVAL ACTIVITIES IN THE**
 8 **ADMINISTRATION OF EDUCATION BENEFITS.**

9 (a) COORDINATION.—

10 (1) IN GENERAL.—Section 3673 is amended—

11 (A) by redesignating subsection (b) as sub-
 12 section (c); and

13 (B) by inserting after subsection (a) the fol-
 14 lowing new subsection (b):

15 “(b) COORDINATION OF ACTIVITIES.—The Secretary
 16 shall take appropriate actions to ensure the coordination
 17 of approval activities performed by State approving agen-
 18 cies under this chapter and chapters 34 and 35 of this title
 19 and approval activities performed by the Department of
 20 Labor, the Department of Education, and other entities in
 21 order to reduce overlap and improve efficiency in the per-
 22 formance of such activities.”.

23 (2) CONFORMING AND CLERICAL AMENDMENTS.—

24 (A) The heading of such section is amended to read
 25 as follows:

1 **“§ 3673. Approval activities: cooperation and coordi-**
 2 **nation of activities”.**

3 (B) *The table of sections at the beginning of*
 4 *chapter 36 is amended by striking the item relating*
 5 *to section 3673 and inserting the following new item:*

“3673. Approval activities: cooperation and coordination of activities.”.

6 (3) *STYLISTIC AMENDMENTS.—Such section is*
 7 *further amended—*

8 (A) *in subsection (a), by inserting “CO-*
 9 *OPERATION IN ACTIVITIES.—” after “(a)”;* and

10 (B) *in subsection (c), as redesignated by*
 11 *paragraph (1)(A) of this subsection, by inserting*
 12 *“AVAILABILITY OF INFORMATION MATERIAL.—”*
 13 *after “(c)”.*

14 (b) *REPORT.—Not later than 120 days after the date*
 15 *of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Veterans Af-*
 16 *airs shall submit to the Committee on Veterans’ Affairs of*
 17 *the Senate and the Committee on Veterans’ Affairs of the*
 18 *House of Representatives a report setting forth the fol-*
 19 *lowing:*

20 (1) *The actions taken to establish outcome-ori-*
 21 *ented performance standards for State approving*
 22 *agencies created or designated under section 3671 of*
 23 *title 38, United States Code, including a description*
 24 *of any plans for, and the status of the implementation*
 25 *of, such standards as part of the evaluations of State*

1 *waiver is in the public interest. Any such waiver shall be*
 2 *made on a case-by-case basis.”.*

3 **SEC. 304. MODIFICATION OF SPECIAL UNEMPLOYMENT**
 4 **STUDY TO COVER VETERANS OF POST 9/11**
 5 **GLOBAL OPERATIONS.**

6 *(a) MODIFICATION OF STUDY.—Subsection (a)(1) of*
 7 *section 4110A is amended—*

8 *(1) in the matter before subparagraph (A), by*
 9 *striking “a study every two years” and inserting “an*
 10 *annual study”;*

11 *(2) by redesignating subparagraph (A) as sub-*
 12 *paragraph (F);*

13 *(3) by striking subparagraph (B) and inserting*
 14 *the following new subparagraphs:*

15 *“(A) Veterans who were called to active duty*
 16 *while members of the National Guard or a Reserve*
 17 *Component.*

18 *“(B) Veterans who served in combat or in a war*
 19 *zone in the Post 9/11 Global Operations theaters.”;*
 20 *and*

21 *(4) in subparagraph (C)—*

22 *(A) by striking “Vietnam era” and insert-*
 23 *ing “Post 9/11 Global Operations period”; and*

1 (B) by striking “the Vietnam theater of op-
2 erations” and inserting “the Post 9/11 Global
3 Operations theaters”.

4 (b) *DEFINITIONS.*—Such section is further amended by
5 adding at the end the following new subsection:

6 “(c) In this section:

7 “(1) The term ‘Post 9/11 Global Operations pe-
8 riod’ means the period of the Persian Gulf War begin-
9 ning on September 11, 2001, and ending on the date
10 thereafter prescribed by Presidential proclamation or
11 law.

12 “(2) The term ‘Post 9/11 Global Operations thea-
13 ters’ means Afghanistan, Iraq, or any other theater in
14 which the Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary
15 Medal is awarded for service.”.

16 **SEC. 305. EXTENSION OF INCREASE IN BENEFIT FOR INDI-**
17 **VIDUALS PURSUING APPRENTICESHIP OR ON-**
18 **JOB TRAINING.**

19 Section 103 of the Veterans Benefits Improvement Act
20 of 2004 (Public Law 108–454; 118 Stat. 3600) is amended
21 by striking “2008” each place it appears and inserting
22 “2010”.

1 **TITLE IV—FILIPINO WORLD WAR**
 2 **II VETERANS MATTERS**

3 **SEC. 401. EXPANSION OF ELIGIBILITY FOR BENEFITS PRO-**
 4 **VIDED BY DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AF-**
 5 **FAIRS FOR CERTAIN SERVICE IN THE ORGA-**
 6 **NIZED MILITARY FORCES OF THE COMMON-**
 7 **WEALTH OF THE PHILIPPINES AND THE PHIL-**
 8 **IPPINE SCOUTS.**

9 (a) *MODIFICATION OF STATUS OF CERTAIN SERV-*
 10 *ICE.—*

11 (1) *IN GENERAL.—Section 107 is amended to*
 12 *read as follows:*

13 **“§ 107. Certain service with Philippine forces deemed**
 14 **to be active service**

15 *“(a) IN GENERAL.—Service described in subsection (b)*
 16 *shall be deemed to have been active military, naval, or air*
 17 *service for purposes of any law of the United States confer-*
 18 *ring rights, privileges, or benefits upon any individual by*
 19 *reason of the service of such individual or the service of any*
 20 *other individual in the Armed Forces.*

21 *“(b) SERVICE DESCRIBED.—Service described in this*
 22 *subsection is service—*

23 *“(1) before July 1, 1946, in the organized mili-*
 24 *tary forces of the Government of the Commonwealth*
 25 *of the Philippines, while such forces were in the serv-*

1 *ice of the Armed Forces of the United States pursuant*
2 *to the military order of the President dated July 26,*
3 *1941, including among such military forces organized*
4 *guerrilla forces under commanders appointed, des-*
5 *ignated, or subsequently recognized by the Com-*
6 *mander in Chief, Southwest Pacific Area, or other*
7 *competent authority in the Army of the United*
8 *States; or*

9 *“(2) in the Philippine Scouts under section 14*
10 *of the Armed Forces Voluntary Recruitment Act of*
11 *1945 (59 Stat. 538).*

12 *“(c) DEPENDENCY AND INDEMNITY COMPENSATION*
13 *FOR CERTAIN RECIPIENTS RESIDING OUTSIDE THE*
14 *UNITED STATES.—(1) Dependency and indemnity com-*
15 *ensation provided under chapter 13 of this title to an indi-*
16 *vidual described in paragraph (2) shall be made at a rate*
17 *of \$0.50 for each dollar authorized.*

18 *“(2) An individual described in this paragraph is an*
19 *individual who resides outside the United States and is en-*
20 *titled to dependency and indemnity compensation under*
21 *chapter 13 of this title based on service described in sub-*
22 *section (b).*

23 *“(d) MODIFIED PENSION AND DEATH PENSION FOR*
24 *CERTAIN RECIPIENTS RESIDING OUTSIDE THE UNITED*
25 *STATES.—(1) Any pension provided under subchapter II*

1 *or III of chapter 15 of this title to an individual described*
 2 *in paragraph (2) shall be made only as specified in section*
 3 *1514 of this title.*

4 “(2) *An individual described in this paragraph is an*
 5 *individual who resides outside the United States and is en-*
 6 *titled to a pension provided under subchapter II or III of*
 7 *chapter 15 of this title based on service described in sub-*
 8 *section (b).*

9 “(e) *UNITED STATES DEFINED.—In this section, the*
 10 *term ‘United States’ means the States, the District of Co-*
 11 *lumbia, Puerto Rico, Guam, American Samoa, the Virgin*
 12 *Islands, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Is-*
 13 *lands, and any other possession or territory of the United*
 14 *States.”.*

15 (2) *CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sec-*
 16 *tions at the beginning of chapter 1 is amended by*
 17 *striking the item related to section 107 and inserting*
 18 *the following new item:*

“107. Certain service with Philippine forces deemed to be active service.”.

19 (3) *EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by*
 20 *this subsection shall apply with respect to the pay-*
 21 *ment or provision of benefits on or after the date of*
 22 *the enactment of this Act. No benefits are payable or*
 23 *are required to be provided by reason of such amend-*
 24 *ment for any period before such date.*

1 (b) *PENSION AND DEATH PENSION FOR CERTAIN*
 2 *SERVICE.*—

3 (1) *IN GENERAL.*—*Subchapter II of chapter 15 is*
 4 *amended by adding at the end the following new sec-*
 5 *tion:*

6 **“§ 1514. *Certain recipients residing outside the United***
 7 ***States***

8 “(a) *SPECIAL RATES FOR PENSION BENEFITS FOR IN-*
 9 *DIVIDUALS SERVING WITH PHILIPPINE FORCES AND SUR-*
 10 *VIVORS.*—(1) *Payment under this subchapter to an indi-*
 11 *vidual who resides outside the United States and is eligible*
 12 *for such payment because of service described in section*
 13 *107(b) of this title shall be made as follows:*

14 “(A) *For such an individual who is married, at*
 15 *a rate of \$4,500 per year (as increased from time to*
 16 *time under section 5312 of this title).*

17 “(B) *For such an individual who is not married,*
 18 *at a rate of \$3,600 per year (as increased from time*
 19 *to time under section 5312 of this title).*

20 “(2) *Payment under subchapter III of this chapter to*
 21 *an individual who resides outside the United States and*
 22 *is eligible for such payment because of service described in*
 23 *section 107(b) of this title shall be made at a rate of \$2,400*
 24 *per year (as increased from time to time under section 5312*
 25 *of this title).*

1 “(3) *An individual who is otherwise entitled to benefits*
 2 *under this chapter and resides outside the United States,*
 3 *and receives or would otherwise be eligible to receive a mon-*
 4 *etary benefit from a foreign government, may not receive*
 5 *benefits under this chapter for service described in section*
 6 *107(b) of this title if receipt of such benefits under this*
 7 *chapter would reduce such monetary benefit from such for-*
 8 *eign government.*

9 “(4) *The provisions of sections 1503(a), 1506, 1522,*
 10 *and 1543 of this title shall not apply to benefits paid under*
 11 *this section.*

12 “(b) *INDIVIDUALS LIVING OUTSIDE THE UNITED*
 13 *STATES ENTITLED TO CERTAIN SOCIAL SECURITY BENE-*
 14 *FITS INELIGIBLE.—An individual residing outside the*
 15 *United States who is receiving or is eligible to receive bene-*
 16 *fits under title VIII of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C.*
 17 *1001 et seq.) may not receive benefits under this chapter.*

18 “(c) *UNITED STATES DEFINED.—In this section, the*
 19 *term ‘United States’ means the States, the District of Co-*
 20 *lumbia, Puerto Rico, Guam, American Samoa, the Virgin*
 21 *Islands, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Is-*
 22 *lands, and any other possession or territory of the United*
 23 *States.”.*

24 (2) *CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sec-*
 25 *tions at the beginning of chapter 15 is amended by*

1 *inserting after the item related to section 1513 the fol-*
2 *lowing new item:*

“1514. Certain recipients residing outside the United States.”.

3 (3) *FREQUENCY OF PAYMENT.*—*Section 1508 is*
4 *amended by inserting “1514,” before “1521,” each*
5 *place it appears.*

6 (4) *ROUNDING DOWN OF RATES.*—*Section 5123*
7 *is amended by inserting “1514,” before “1521”.*

8 (5) *ANNUAL ADJUSTMENT OF BENEFIT RATES.*—
9 *Section 5312 is amended—*

10 (A) *in subsection (a), by inserting “1514,”*
11 *before “1521,” the first place it appears; and*

12 (B) *in subsection (c)(1), by inserting*
13 *“1514,” before “1521,”.*

14 (6) *EFFECTIVE DATE.*—*The amendments made*
15 *by paragraphs (1) and (2) shall apply to applications*
16 *for benefits filed on or after May 1, 2008. The amend-*
17 *ments made by paragraphs (3), (4), and (5) shall*
18 *take effect on May 1, 2008.*

19 (c) *PENSION AND DEATH PENSION BENEFIT PROTEC-*
20 *TION.*—*Notwithstanding any other provision of law, a vet-*
21 *eran with service described in section 107(b) of title 38,*
22 *United States Code (as added by subsection (a)), who is*
23 *receiving benefits under a Federal or federally assisted pro-*
24 *gram as of the date of the enactment of this Act, or a sur-*
25 *vivor of such veteran who is receiving such benefits as of*

1 *the date of the enactment of this Act, may not be required*
 2 *to apply for or receive benefits under chapter 15 of such*
 3 *title if the receipt of such benefits would—*

4 *(1) make such veteran or survivor ineligible for*
 5 *any Federal or federally assisted program for which*
 6 *such veteran or survivor qualifies; or*

7 *(2) reduce the amount of benefit such veteran or*
 8 *survivor would receive from any Federal or federally*
 9 *assisted program for which such veteran or survivor*
 10 *qualifies.*

11 **SEC. 402. ELIGIBILITY OF CHILDREN OF CERTAIN PHIL-**
 12 **IPPINE VETERANS FOR EDUCATIONAL AS-**
 13 **SISTANCE.**

14 *(a) IN GENERAL.—Subsection (b) of section 3565 is*
 15 *amended by striking “except that—” and all that follows*
 16 *and inserting “except that a reference to a State approving*
 17 *agency shall be deemed to refer to the Secretary.”.*

18 *(b) REPEAL OF OBSOLETE PROVISION.—Such section*
 19 *is further amended by striking subsection (c).*

20 **TITLE V—COURT MATTERS**

21 **SEC. 501. RECALL OF RETIRED JUDGES OF THE UNITED**
 22 **STATES COURT OF APPEALS FOR VETERANS**
 23 **CLAIMS.**

24 *(a) REPEAL OF LIMIT ON SERVICE OF RECALLED RE-*
 25 *TIRED JUDGES WHO VOLUNTARILY SERVE MORE THAN 90*

1 *DAYS.—Section 7257(b)(2) is amended by striking “or for*
 2 *more than a total of 180 days (or the equivalent) during*
 3 *any calendar year”.*

4 *(b) NEW JUDGES RECALLED AFTER RETIREMENT RE-*
 5 *CEIVE PAY OF CURRENT JUDGES ONLY DURING PERIOD*
 6 *OF RECALL.—*

7 *(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 7296(c) is amended*
 8 *by striking paragraph (1) and inserting the following*
 9 *new paragraph:*

10 *“(1)(A) A judge who is appointed on or after the date*
 11 *of the enactment of the Veterans’ Benefits Enhancement Act*
 12 *of 2007 and who retires under subsection (b) and elects*
 13 *under subsection (d) to receive retired pay under this sub-*
 14 *section shall (except as provided in paragraph (2)) receive*
 15 *retired pay as follows:*

16 *“(i) In the case of a judge who is a recall-eligible*
 17 *retired judge under section 7257 of this title, the re-*
 18 *tired pay of the judge shall (subject to section*
 19 *7257(d)(2) of this title) be the rate of pay applicable*
 20 *to that judge at the time of retirement, as adjusted*
 21 *from time to time under subsection (f)(3).*

22 *“(ii) In the case of a judge other than a recall-*
 23 *eligible retired judge, the retired pay of the judge shall*
 24 *be the rate of pay applicable to that judge at the time*
 25 *of retirement.*

1 “(B) A judge who retired before the date of the enact-
2 ment of the Veterans’ Benefits Enhancement Act of 2007
3 and elected under subsection (d) to receive retired pay under
4 this subsection, or a judge who retires under subsection (b)
5 and elects under subsection (d) to receive retired pay under
6 this subsection, shall (except as provided in paragraph (2))
7 receive retired pay as follows:

8 “(i) In the case of a judge who is a recall-eligible
9 retired judge under section 7257 of this title or who
10 was a recall-eligible retired judge under that section
11 and was removed from recall status under subsection
12 (b)(4) of that section by reason of disability, the re-
13 tired pay of the judge shall be the pay of a judge of
14 the court.

15 “(ii) In the case of a judge who at the time of
16 retirement did not provide notice under section 7257
17 of this title of availability for service in a recalled
18 status, the retired pay of the judge shall be the rate
19 of pay applicable to that judge at the time of retire-
20 ment.

21 “(iii) In the case of a judge who was a recall-
22 eligible retired judge under section 7257 of this title
23 and was removed from recall status under subsection
24 (b)(3) of that section, the retired pay of the judge

1 *shall be the pay of the judge at the time of the re-*
2 *moval from recall status.”.*

3 (2) *COST-OF-LIVING ADJUSTMENT FOR RETIRED*
4 *PAY OF NEW JUDGES WHO ARE RECALL-ELIGIBLE.—*
5 *Section 7296(f)(3)(A) is amended by striking “para-*
6 *graph (2) of subsection (c)” and inserting “paragraph*
7 *(1)(A)(i) or (2) of subsection (c)”.*

8 (3) *PAY DURING PERIOD OF RECALL.—Sub-*
9 *section (d) of section 7257 is amended to read as fol-*
10 *lows:*

11 *“(d)(1) The pay of a recall-eligible retired judge to*
12 *whom section 7296(c)(1)(B) of this title applies is the pay*
13 *specified in that section.*

14 *“(2) A judge who is recalled under this section who*
15 *retired under chapter 83 or 84 of title 5 or to whom section*
16 *7296(c)(1)(A) of this title applies shall be paid, during the*
17 *period for which the judge serves in recall status, pay at*
18 *the rate of pay in effect under section 7253(e) of this title*
19 *for a judge performing active service, less the amount of*
20 *the judge’s annuity under the applicable provisions of chap-*
21 *ter 83 or 84 of title 5 or the judge’s annuity under section*
22 *7296(c)(1)(A) of this title, whichever is applicable.”.*

23 (4) *NOTICE.—The last sentence of section*
24 *7257(a)(1) is amended to read as follows: “Such a no-*

1 *tice provided by a retired judge to whom section*
 2 *7296(c)(1)(B) of this title applies is irrevocable.”.*

3 *(c) LIMITATION ON INVOLUNTARY RECALLS.—Section*
 4 *7257(b)(3) is amended by adding at the end the following*
 5 *new sentence: “This paragraph shall not apply to a judge*
 6 *to whom section 7296(c)(1)(A) or 7296(c)(1)(B) of this title*
 7 *applies and who has, in the aggregate, served at least five*
 8 *years of recalled service on the Court under this section.”.*

9 **SEC. 502. ADDITIONAL DISCRETION IN IMPOSITION OF**
 10 **PRACTICE AND REGISTRATION FEES.**

11 *Section 7285(a) is amended—*

12 *(1) in the first sentence, by inserting “reason-*
 13 *able” after “impose a”;*

14 *(2) in the second sentence, by striking “, except*
 15 *that such amount may not exceed \$30 per year”;* and

16 *(3) in the third sentence, by inserting “reason-*
 17 *able” after “impose a”.*

18 **SEC. 503. ANNUAL REPORTS ON WORKLOAD OF UNITED**
 19 **STATES COURT OF APPEALS FOR VETERANS**
 20 **CLAIMS.**

21 *(a) IN GENERAL.—Subchapter III of chapter 72 is*
 22 *amended by adding at the end the following new section:*

23 **“§ 7288. Annual report**

24 *“(a) IN GENERAL.—The chief judge of the Court shall*
 25 *submit annually to the appropriate committees of Congress*

1 *a report summarizing the workload of the Court for the last*
 2 *fiscal year that ended before the submission of such report.*
 3 *Such report shall include, with respect to such fiscal year,*
 4 *the following information:*

5 “(1) *The number of appeals filed.*”

6 “(2) *The number of petitions filed.*”

7 “(3) *The number of applications filed under sec-*
 8 *tion 2412 of title 28.*”

9 “(4) *The number and type of dispositions.*”

10 “(5) *The median time from filing to disposition.*”

11 “(6) *The number of oral arguments.*”

12 “(7) *The number and status of pending appeals*
 13 *and petitions and of applications described in para-*
 14 *graph (3).*”

15 “(8) *A summary of any service performed by re-*
 16 *called retired judges during the fiscal year.*”

17 “(b) *APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES OF CONGRESS DE-*
 18 *FINED.—In this section, the term ‘appropriate committees*
 19 *of Congress’ means the Committee on Veterans’ Affairs of*
 20 *the Senate and the Committee on Veterans’ Affairs of the*
 21 *House of Representatives.’”.*

22 (b) *CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections at*
 23 *the beginning of chapter 72 is amended by inserting after*
 24 *the item related to section 7287 the following new item:*

“7288. *Annual report.*”.

1 **SEC. 504. REPORT ON EXPANSION OF FACILITIES FOR**
2 **UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS FOR**
3 **VETERANS CLAIMS.**

4 (a) *FINDINGS.*—Congress makes the following findings:

5 (1) *The United States Court of Appeals for Vet-*
6 *erans Claims is currently located in the District of*
7 *Columbia in a commercial office building that is also*
8 *occupied by other Federal tenants.*

9 (2) *In February 2006, the General Services Ad-*
10 *ministration provided Congress with a preliminary*
11 *feasibility analysis of a dedicated Veterans Court-*
12 *house and Justice Center that would house the Court*
13 *and other entities that work with the Court.*

14 (3) *In February 2007, the Court notified Con-*
15 *gress that the “most cost-effective alternative appears*
16 *to be leasing substantial additional space in the cur-*
17 *rent location”, which would “require relocating other*
18 *current government tenants” from that building.*

19 (4) *The February 2006 feasibility report of the*
20 *General Services Administration does not include an*
21 *analysis of whether it would be feasible or desirable*
22 *to locate a Veterans Courthouse and Justice Center at*
23 *the current location of the Court.*

24 (b) *SENSE OF CONGRESS.*—*It is the sense of Congress*
25 *that—*

1 (1) *the United States Court of Appeals for Vet-*
2 *erans Claims should be provided with appropriate of-*
3 *fice space to meet its needs, as well as to provide the*
4 *image, security, and stature befitting a court that*
5 *provides justice to the veterans of the United States;*
6 *and*

7 (2) *in providing that space, Congress should*
8 *avoid undue disruption, inconvenience, or cost to*
9 *other Federal entities.*

10 (c) *REPORT.—*

11 (1) *IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after*
12 *the date of the enactment of this Act, the Adminis-*
13 *trator of General Services shall submit to the Com-*
14 *mittee on Veterans' Affairs of the Senate and the*
15 *Committee on Veterans' Affairs of the House of Rep-*
16 *resentatives a report on the feasibility of—*

17 (A) *leasing additional space for the United*
18 *States Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims*
19 *within the building where the Court was located*
20 *on the date of the enactment of this Act; and*

21 (B) *using the entirety of such building as a*
22 *Veterans Courthouse and Justice Center.*

23 (2) *CONTENTS.—The report required by para-*
24 *graph (1) shall include a detailed analysis of the fol-*
25 *lowing:*

1 (A) *The impact that the matter analyzed in*
2 *accordance with paragraph (1) would have on*
3 *Federal tenants of the building used by the*
4 *Court.*

5 (B) *Whether it would be feasible to relocate*
6 *such Federal tenants into office space that offers*
7 *similar or preferable cost, convenience, and usa-*
8 *ble square footage.*

9 (C) *If relocation of such Federal tenants is*
10 *found to be feasible and desirable, an analysis of*
11 *what steps should be taken to convert the build-*
12 *ing into a Veterans Courthouse and Justice Cen-*
13 *ter and a timeline for such conversion.*

14 (3) *COMMENT PERIOD.—The Administrator shall*
15 *provide an opportunity to such Federal tenants—*

16 (A) *before the completion of the report re-*
17 *quired by paragraph (1), to comment on the sub-*
18 *ject of the report required by such paragraph;*
19 *and*

20 (B) *before the Administrator submits the re-*
21 *port required by paragraph (1) to the congres-*
22 *sional committees specified in such paragraph,*
23 *to comment on a draft of such report.*

1 **TITLE VI—COMPENSATION AND**
 2 **PENSION MATTERS**

3 **SEC. 601. ADDITION OF OSTEOPOROSIS TO DISABILITIES**
 4 **PRESUMED TO BE SERVICE-CONNECTED IN**
 5 **FORMER PRISONERS OF WAR WITH POST-**
 6 **TRAUMATIC STRESS DISORDER.**

7 *Section 1112(b)(2) is amended by adding at the end*
 8 *the following new subparagraph:*

9 *“(F) Osteoporosis, if the Secretary determines*
 10 *that the veteran was diagnosed with post-traumatic*
 11 *stress disorder (PTSD).”.*

12 **SEC. 602. COST-OF-LIVING INCREASE FOR TEMPORARY DE-**
 13 **PENDENCY AND INDEMNITY COMPENSATION**
 14 **PAYABLE FOR SURVIVING SPOUSES WITH DE-**
 15 **PENDENT CHILDREN UNDER THE AGE OF 18.**

16 *Section 1311(f) is amended by adding at the end the*
 17 *following new paragraph:*

18 *“(5) Whenever there is an increase in benefit amounts*
 19 *payable under title II of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C.*
 20 *401 et seq.) as a result of a determination made under sec-*
 21 *tion 215(i) of such Act (42 U.S.C. 415(i)), the Secretary*
 22 *shall, effective on the date of such increase in benefit*
 23 *amounts, increase the amount payable under paragraph*
 24 *(1), as such amount was in effect immediately prior to the*
 25 *date of such increase in benefit amounts, by the same per-*

1 *centage as the percentage by which such benefit amounts*
2 *are increased. Any increase in a dollar amount under this*
3 *paragraph shall be rounded down to the next lower whole*
4 *dollar amount.”.*

5 **SEC. 603. CLARIFICATION OF ELIGIBILITY OF VETERANS 65**
6 **YEARS OF AGE OR OLDER FOR SERVICE PEN-**
7 **SION FOR A PERIOD OF WAR.**

8 *Section 1513 is amended—*

9 *(1) in subsection (a), by striking “by section*
10 *1521” and all that follows and inserting “by sub-*
11 *section (b), (c), (f)(1), (f)(5), or (g) of that section, as*
12 *the case may be and as increased from time to time*
13 *under section 5312 of this title.”;*

14 *(2) by redesignating subsection (b) as subsection*
15 *(c); and*

16 *(3) by inserting after subsection (a) the following*
17 *new subsection (b):*

18 *“(b) The conditions in subsections (h) and (i) of sec-*
19 *tion 1521 of this title shall apply to determinations of in-*
20 *come and maximum payments of pension for purposes of*
21 *this section.”.*

1 **TITLE VII—BURIAL AND**
2 **MEMORIAL MATTERS**

3 **SEC. 701. SUPPLEMENTAL BENEFITS FOR VETERANS FOR**
4 **FUNERAL AND BURIAL EXPENSES.**

5 (a) *FUNERAL EXPENSES.*—

6 (1) *IN GENERAL.*—Chapter 23 is amended by in-
7 serting after section 2302 the following new section:

8 **“§ 2302A. Funeral expenses: supplemental benefits**

9 “(a) *IN GENERAL.*—(1) Subject to the availability of
10 *funds specifically provided for purposes of this subsection*
11 *in advance in an appropriations Act, whenever the Sec-*
12 *retary makes a payment for the burial and funeral of a*
13 *veteran under section 2302(a) of this title, the Secretary*
14 *is also authorized and directed to pay the recipient of such*
15 *payment a supplemental payment under this section for the*
16 *cost of such burial and funeral.*

17 “(2) *No supplemental payment shall be made under*
18 *this subsection if the Secretary has expended all funds that*
19 *were specifically provided for purposes of this subsection in*
20 *an appropriations Act.*

21 “(b) *AMOUNT.*—*The amount of the supplemental pay-*
22 *ment required by subsection (a) for any death is \$900 (as*
23 *adjusted from time to time under subsection (c)).*

24 “(c) *ADJUSTMENT.*—*With respect to deaths that occur*
25 *in any fiscal year after fiscal year 2008, the supplemental*

1 *payment described in subsection (b) shall be equal to the*
2 *sum of—*

3 “(1) *the supplemental payment in effect under*
4 *subsection (b) for the preceding fiscal year (deter-*
5 *mined after application of this subsection), plus*

6 “(2) *the sum of the amount described in section*
7 *2302(a) of this title and the amount under paragraph*
8 *(1), multiplied by the percentage by which—*

9 “(A) *the Consumer Price Index (all items,*
10 *United States city average) for the 12-month pe-*
11 *riod ending on the June 30 preceding the begin-*
12 *ning of the fiscal year for which the increase is*
13 *made, exceeds*

14 “(B) *such Consumer Price Index for the 12-*
15 *month period preceding the 12-month period de-*
16 *scribed in subparagraph (A).*

17 “(d) *ESTIMATES.—(1) From time to time, the Sec-*
18 *retary shall make an estimate of—*

19 “(A) *the amount of funding that would be nec-*
20 *essary to provide supplemental payments under this*
21 *section to all eligible recipients for the remainder of*
22 *the fiscal year in which such an estimate is made;*
23 *and*

24 “(B) *the amount that Congress would need to*
25 *appropriate to provide all eligible recipients with*

1 *supplemental payments under this section in the next*
2 *fiscal year.*

3 *“(2) On the dates described in paragraph (3), the Sec-*
4 *retary shall submit to the appropriate committees of Con-*
5 *gress the estimates described in paragraph (1).*

6 *“(3) The dates described in this paragraph are the fol-*
7 *lowing:*

8 *“(A) April 1 of each year.*

9 *“(B) July 1 of each year.*

10 *“(C) September 1 of each year.*

11 *“(D) The date that is 60 days before the date es-*
12 *timated by the Secretary on which amounts appro-*
13 *priated for the purposes of this section for a fiscal*
14 *year will be exhausted.*

15 *“(e) APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES OF CONGRESS DE-*
16 *FINED.—In this section, the term ‘appropriate committees*
17 *of Congress’ means—*

18 *“(1) the Committee on Appropriations and the*
19 *Committee on Veterans’ Affairs of the Senate; and*

20 *“(2) the Committee on Appropriations and the*
21 *Committee on Veterans’ Affairs of the House of Rep-*
22 *resentatives.”.*

23 *(2) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sec-*
24 *tions at the beginning of such chapter is amended by*

1 *inserting after the item related to section 2302 the fol-*
 2 *lowing new item:*

 “2302A. *Funeral expenses: supplemental benefits.*”.

3 (3) *AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—*

4 *There are authorized to be appropriated to the Sec-*
 5 *retary of Veterans Affairs such sums as may be nec-*
 6 *essary to carry out the provisions of section 2302A of*
 7 *title 38, United States Code (as added by this sub-*
 8 *section).*

9 (b) *DEATH FROM SERVICE-CONNECTED DISABILITY.—*

10 (1) *IN GENERAL.—Chapter 23 is amended by in-*
 11 *serting after section 2307 the following new section:*

12 **“§2307A. *Death from service-connected disability:***
 13 ***supplemental benefits for burial and fu-***
 14 ***neral expenses***

15 “(a) *IN GENERAL.—(1) Subject to the availability of*
 16 *funds specifically provided for purposes of this subsection*
 17 *in advance in an appropriations Act, whenever the Sec-*
 18 *retary makes a payment for the burial and funeral of a*
 19 *veteran under section 2307(1) of this title, the Secretary is*
 20 *also authorized and directed to pay the recipient of such*
 21 *payment a supplemental payment under this section for the*
 22 *cost of such burial and funeral.*

23 “(2) *No supplemental payment shall be made under*
 24 *this subsection if the Secretary has expended all funds that*

1 *were specifically provided for purposes of this subsection in*
2 *an appropriations Act.*

3 “(b) *AMOUNT.*—*The amount of the supplemental pay-*
4 *ment required by subsection (a) for any death is \$2,100*
5 *(as adjusted from time to time under subsection (c)).*

6 “(c) *ADJUSTMENT.*—*With respect to deaths that occur*
7 *in any fiscal year after fiscal year 2008, the supplemental*
8 *payment described in subsection (b) shall be equal to the*
9 *sum of—*

10 “(1) *the supplemental payment in effect under*
11 *subsection (b) for the preceding fiscal year (deter-*
12 *mined after application of this subsection), plus*

13 “(2) *the sum of the amount described in section*
14 *2307(1) of this title and the amount under paragraph*
15 *(1), multiplied by the percentage by which—*

16 “(A) *the Consumer Price Index (all items,*
17 *United States city average) for the 12-month pe-*
18 *riod ending on the June 30 preceding the begin-*
19 *ning of the fiscal year for which the increase is*
20 *made, exceeds*

21 “(B) *such Consumer Price Index for the 12-*
22 *month period preceding the 12-month period de-*
23 *scribed in subparagraph (A).*

24 “(d) *ESTIMATES.*—(1) *From time to time, the Sec-*
25 *retary shall make an estimate of—*

1 “(A) *the amount of funding that would be nec-*
2 *essary to provide supplemental payments under this*
3 *section to all eligible recipients for the remainder of*
4 *the fiscal year in which such an estimate is made;*
5 *and*

6 “(B) *the amount that Congress would need to*
7 *appropriate to provide all eligible recipients with*
8 *supplemental payments under this section in the next*
9 *fiscal year.*

10 “(2) *On the dates described in paragraph (3), the Sec-*
11 *retary shall submit to the appropriate committees of Con-*
12 *gress the estimates described in paragraph (1).*

13 “(3) *The dates described in this paragraph are the fol-*
14 *lowing:*

15 “(A) *April 1 of each year.*

16 “(B) *July 1 of each year.*

17 “(C) *September 1 of each year.*

18 “(D) *The date that is 60 days before the date es-*
19 *timated by the Secretary on which amounts appro-*
20 *priated for the purposes of this section for a fiscal*
21 *year will be exhausted.*

22 “(e) *APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES OF CONGRESS DE-*
23 *FINED.—In this section, the term ‘appropriate committees*
24 *of Congress’ means—*

1 “(1) *the Committee on Appropriations and the*
2 *Committee on Veterans’ Affairs of the Senate; and*

3 “(2) *the Committee on Appropriations and the*
4 *Committee on Veterans’ Affairs of the House of Rep-*
5 *resentatives.”.*

6 (2) *CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sec-*
7 *tions at the beginning of such chapter is amended by*
8 *inserting after the item related to section 2307 the fol-*
9 *lowing new item:*

 “2307A. *Death from service-connected disability: supplemental benefits for burial*
 and funeral expenses.”.

10 (3) *AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—*
11 *There are authorized to be appropriated to the Sec-*
12 *retary of Veterans Affairs such sums as may be nec-*
13 *essary to carry out the provisions of section 2307A of*
14 *title 38, United States Code (as added by this sub-*
15 *section).*

16 (c) *EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this*
17 *section shall take effect on October 1, 2007, and shall apply*
18 *with respect to deaths occurring on or after that date.*

19 **SEC. 702. SUPPLEMENTAL PLOT ALLOWANCES.**

20 (a) *IN GENERAL.—Chapter 23 is amended by insert-*
21 *ing after section 2303 the following new section:*

22 **“§2303A. Supplemental plot allowance**

23 “(a) *IN GENERAL.—(1) Subject to the availability of*
24 *funds specifically provided for purposes of this subsection*

1 *in advance in an appropriations Act, whenever the Sec-*
2 *retary makes a payment for the burial and funeral of a*
3 *veteran under section 2303(a)(1)(A) of this title, or for the*
4 *burial of a veteran under paragraph (1) or (2) of section*
5 *2303(b) of this title, the Secretary is also authorized and*
6 *directed to pay the recipient of such payment a supple-*
7 *mental payment under this section for the cost of such bur-*
8 *ial and funeral or burial, as applicable.*

9 “(2) *No supplemental plot allowance payment shall be*
10 *made under this subsection if the Secretary has expended*
11 *all funds that were specifically provided for purposes of this*
12 *subsection in an appropriations Act.*

13 “(b) *AMOUNT.—The amount of the supplemental pay-*
14 *ment required by subsection (a) for any death is \$445 (as*
15 *adjusted from time to time under subsection (c)).*

16 “(c) *ADJUSTMENT.—With respect to deaths that occur*
17 *in any fiscal year after fiscal year 2008, the supplemental*
18 *payment described in subsection (b) shall be equal to the*
19 *sum of—*

20 “(1) *the supplemental payment in effect under*
21 *subsection (b) for the preceding fiscal year (deter-*
22 *mined after application of this subsection), plus*

23 “(2) *the sum of the amount described in section*
24 *2303(a)(1)(A) of this title and the amount under*

1 paragraph (1), multiplied by the percentage by
2 which—

3 “(A) the Consumer Price Index (all items,
4 United States city average) for the 12-month pe-
5 riod ending on the June 30 preceding the begin-
6 ning of the fiscal year for which the increase is
7 made, exceeds

8 “(B) such Consumer Price Index for the 12-
9 month period preceding the 12-month period de-
10 scribed in subparagraph (A).

11 “(d) ESTIMATES.—(1) From time to time, the Sec-
12 retary shall make an estimate of—

13 “(A) the amount of funding that would be nec-
14 essary to provide supplemental plot allowance pay-
15 ments under this section to all eligible recipients for
16 the remainder of the fiscal year in which such an esti-
17 mate is made; and

18 “(B) the amount that Congress would need to
19 appropriate to provide all eligible recipients with
20 supplemental plot allowance payments under this sec-
21 tion in the next fiscal year.

22 “(2) On the dates described in paragraph (3), the Sec-
23 retary shall submit to the appropriate committees of Con-
24 gress the estimates described in paragraph (1).

1 “(3) *The dates described in this paragraph are the fol-*
2 *lowing:*

3 “(A) *April 1 of each year.*

4 “(B) *July 1 of each year.*

5 “(C) *September 1 of each year.*

6 “(D) *The date that is 60 days before the date es-*
7 *timated by the Secretary on which amounts appro-*
8 *priated for the purposes of this section for a fiscal*
9 *year will be exhausted.*

10 “(e) *APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES OF CONGRESS DE-*
11 *FINED.—In this section, the term ‘appropriate committees*
12 *of Congress’ means—*

13 “(1) *the Committee on Appropriations and the*
14 *Committee on Veterans’ Affairs of the Senate; and*

15 “(2) *the Committee on Appropriations and the*
16 *Committee on Veterans’ Affairs of the House of Rep-*
17 *resentatives.”.*

18 “(b) *CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections at*
19 *the beginning of such chapter is amended by inserting after*
20 *the item related to section 2303 the following new item:*

 “2303A. *Supplemental plot allowance.”.*

21 “(c) *EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this*
22 *section shall take effect on October 1, 2007, and shall apply*
23 *with respect to deaths occurring on or after that date.*

24 “(d) *AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are*
25 *authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary of Veterans*

1 *Affairs such sums as may be necessary to carry out the pro-*
 2 *visions of section 2303A of title 38, United States Code (as*
 3 *added by subsection (a)).*

4 **TITLE VIII—OTHER MATTERS**

5 **SEC. 801. ELIGIBILITY OF DISABLED VETERANS AND MEM-** 6 **BERS OF THE ARMED FORCES WITH SEVERE** 7 **BURN INJURIES FOR AUTOMOBILES AND** 8 **ADAPTIVE EQUIPMENT.**

9 *(a) ELIGIBILITY.—Paragraph (1) of section 3901 is*
 10 *amended—*

11 *(1) in subparagraph (A)—*

12 *(A) in the matter preceding clause (i), by*
 13 *striking “or (iii) below” and inserting “(iii), or*
 14 *(iv)”;* and

15 *(B) by adding at the end the following new*
 16 *clause:*

17 *“(iv) A severe burn injury (as determined*
 18 *pursuant to regulations prescribed by the Sec-*
 19 *retary).”;* and

20 *(2) in subparagraph (B), by striking “or (iii)”*
 21 *and inserting “(iii), or (iv)”.*

22 *(b) STYLISTIC AMENDMENTS.—Such section is further*
 23 *amended—*

24 *(1) in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by*
 25 *striking “chapter—” and inserting “chapter:”;*

1 (2) *in paragraph (1)—*

2 (A) *in the matter preceding subparagraph*
 3 *(A), by striking “means—” and inserting*
 4 *“means the following:”;*

5 (B) *in subparagraph (A)—*

6 (i) *in the matter preceding clause (i),*
 7 *by striking “any veteran” and inserting*
 8 *“Any veteran”;*

9 (ii) *in clauses (i) and (ii), by striking*
 10 *the semicolon at the end and inserting a pe-*
 11 *riod; and*

12 (iii) *in clause (iii), by striking “or”*
 13 *and inserting a period; and*

14 (C) *in subparagraph (B), by striking “any*
 15 *member” and inserting “Any member”.*

16 **SEC. 802. SUPPLEMENTAL ASSISTANCE FOR PROVIDING**
 17 **AUTOMOBILES OR OTHER CONVEYANCES TO**
 18 **CERTAIN DISABLED VETERANS.**

19 (a) *IN GENERAL.—Chapter 39 is amended by insert-*
 20 *ing after section 3902 the following new section:*

21 **“§ 3902A. Supplemental assistance for providing auto-**
 22 **mobiles or other conveyances**

23 *“(a) IN GENERAL.—(1) Subject to the availability of*
 24 *funds specifically provided for purposes of this subsection*
 25 *in advance in an appropriations Act, whenever the Sec-*

1 *retary makes a payment for the purchase of an automobile*
2 *or other conveyance for an eligible person under section*
3 *3902 of this title, the Secretary is also authorized and di-*
4 *rected to pay the recipient of such payment a supplemental*
5 *payment under this section for the cost of such purchase.*

6 “(2) *No supplemental payment shall be made under*
7 *this subsection if the Secretary has expended all funds that*
8 *were specifically provided for purposes of this subsection in*
9 *an appropriations Act.*

10 “(b) *AMOUNT OF SUPPLEMENTAL PAYMENT.—Supple-*
11 *mental payment required by subsection (a) is equal to the*
12 *excess of—*

13 “(1) *the payment which would be determined*
14 *under section 3902 of this title if the amount de-*
15 *scribed in section 3902 of this title were increased to*
16 *the adjusted amount described in subsection (c), over*

17 “(2) *the payment determined under section 3902*
18 *of this title without regard to this section.*

19 “(c) *ADJUSTED AMOUNT.—The adjusted amount is*
20 *\$22,484 (as adjusted from time to time under subsection*
21 *(d)).*

22 “(d) *ADJUSTMENT.—(1) Effective on October 1 of each*
23 *year (beginning in 2008), the Secretary shall increase the*
24 *adjusted amount described in subsection (c) to an amount*

1 *equal to 80 percent of the average retail cost of new auto-*
2 *mobiles for the preceding calendar year.*

3 “(2) *The Secretary shall establish the method for deter-*
4 *mining the average retail cost of new automobiles for pur-*
5 *poses of this subsection. The Secretary may use data devel-*
6 *oped in the private sector if the Secretary determines the*
7 *data is appropriate for purposes of this subsection.*

8 “(e) *ESTIMATES.—(1) From time to time, the Sec-*
9 *retary shall make an estimate of—*

10 “(A) *the amount of funding that would be nec-*
11 *essary to provide supplemental payment under this*
12 *section for every eligible person for the remainder of*
13 *the fiscal year in which such an estimate is made;*
14 *and*

15 “(B) *the amount that Congress would need to*
16 *appropriate to provide every eligible person with sup-*
17 *plemental payment under this section in the next fis-*
18 *cal year.*

19 “(2) *On the dates described in paragraph (3), the Sec-*
20 *retary shall submit to the appropriate committees of Con-*
21 *gress the estimates described in paragraph (1).*

22 “(3) *The dates described in this paragraph are the fol-*
23 *lowing:*

24 “(A) *April 1 of each year.*

25 “(B) *July 1 of each year.*

1 “(C) *September 1 of each year.*

2 “(D) *The date that is 60 days before the date es-*
3 *timated by the Secretary on which amounts appro-*
4 *propriated for the purposes of this section for a fiscal*
5 *year will be exhausted.*

6 “(f) *APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES OF CONGRESS DE-*
7 *FINED.—In this section, the term ‘appropriate committees*
8 *of Congress’ means—*

9 “(1) *the Committee on Appropriations and the*
10 *Committee on Veterans’ Affairs of the Senate; and*

11 “(2) *the Committee on Appropriations and the*
12 *Committee on Veterans’ Affairs of the House of Rep-*
13 *resentatives.”.*

14 “(b) *CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections at*
15 *the beginning of such chapter is amended by inserting after*
16 *the item related to section 3902 the following new item:*

“3902A. Supplemental assistance for providing automobiles or other convey-
ances.”.

17 “(c) *AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are*
18 *authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary of Veterans*
19 *Affairs such sums as may be necessary to carry out the pro-*
20 *visions of section 3902A of title 38, United States Code (as*
21 *added by subsection (a)).*

22 “(d) *EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this*
23 *section shall take effect on October 1, 2007, and shall apply*

1 *with respect to payments made in accordance with section*
2 *3902 of title 38, United States Code, on or after that date.*

3 **SEC. 803. CLARIFICATION OF PURPOSE OF THE OUTREACH**
4 **SERVICES PROGRAM OF THE DEPARTMENT**
5 **OF VETERANS AFFAIRS.**

6 (a) *CLARIFICATION OF INCLUSION OF MEMBERS OF*
7 *THE NATIONAL GUARD AND RESERVE IN PROGRAM.*—Sub-
8 *section (a)(1) of section 6301 is amended by inserting “,*
9 *or from the National Guard or Reserve,” after “active mili-*
10 *tary, naval, or air service”.*

11 (b) *DEFINITION OF OUTREACH.*—Subsection (b) of
12 *such section is amended—*

13 (1) *by redesignating paragraphs (1) and (2) as*
14 *paragraphs (2) and (3), respectively; and*

15 (2) *by inserting before paragraph (2) the fol-*
16 *lowing new paragraph (1):*

17 “(1) *the term ‘outreach’ means the act or process*
18 *of reaching out in a systematic manner to proactively*
19 *provide information, services, and benefits counseling*
20 *to veterans, and to the spouses, children, and parents*
21 *of veterans who may be eligible to receive benefits*
22 *under the laws administered by the Secretary, to en-*
23 *sure that such individuals are fully informed about,*
24 *and assisted in applying for, any benefits and pro-*
25 *grams under such laws;”.*

1 **SEC. 804. TERMINATION OR SUSPENSION OF CONTRACTS**
2 **FOR CELLULAR TELEPHONE SERVICE FOR**
3 **SERVICEMEMBERS UNDERGOING DEPLOY-**
4 **MENT OUTSIDE THE UNITED STATES.**

5 (a) *IN GENERAL.*—Title III of the Servicemembers
6 Civil Relief Act (50 U.S.C. App. 531 et seq.) is amended
7 by inserting after section 305 the following new section:

8 **“SEC. 305A. TERMINATION OR SUSPENSION OF CONTRACTS**
9 **FOR CELLULAR TELEPHONE SERVICE.**

10 “(a) *IN GENERAL.*—A servicemember who receives or-
11 ders to deploy outside of the continental United States for
12 not less than 90 days may request the termination or sus-
13 pension of any contract for cellular telephone service entered
14 into by the servicemember before that date if the
15 servicemember’s ability to satisfy the contract or to utilize
16 the service will be materially affected by that period of de-
17 ployment. The request shall include a copy of the
18 servicemember’s military orders.

19 “(b) *RELIEF.*—Upon receiving the request of a
20 servicemember under subsection (a), the cellular telephone
21 service contractor concerned shall, at the election of the con-
22 tractor—

23 “(1) grant the requested relief without imposi-
24 tion of an early termination fee for termination of the
25 contract or a reactivation fee for suspension of the
26 contract; or

1 “(2) permit the servicemember to suspend the
2 contract at no charge until the end of the deployment
3 without requiring, whether as a condition of suspen-
4 sion or otherwise, that the contract be extended.”.

5 (b) *CLERICAL AMENDMENT.*—The table of contents for
6 that Act is amended by inserting after the item relating
7 to section 305 the following new item:

 “Sec. 305A. Termination or suspension of contracts for cellular telephone serv-
 ice.”.

8 **SEC. 805. MAINTENANCE, MANAGEMENT, AND AVAILABILITY**
9 **FOR RESEARCH OF ASSETS OF AIR FORCE**
10 **HEALTH STUDY.**

11 (a) *PURPOSE.*—The purpose of this section is to ensure
12 that the assets transferred to the Medical Follow-Up Agency
13 from the Air Force Health Study are maintained, managed,
14 and made available as a resource for future research for
15 the benefit of veterans and their families, and for other hu-
16 manitarian purposes.

17 (b) *ASSETS FROM AIR FORCE HEALTH STUDY.*—For
18 purposes of this section, the assets transferred to the Medical
19 Follow-Up Agency from the Air Force Health Study are
20 the assets of the Air Force Health Study transferred to the
21 Medical Follow-Up Agency under section 714 of the John
22 Warner National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year
23 2007 (Public Law 109–364; 120 Stat. 2290), including elec-

1 *tronic data files and biological specimens on all partici-*
2 *pants in the study (including control subjects).*

3 (c) *MAINTENANCE AND MANAGEMENT OF TRANS-*
4 *FERRED ASSETS.—The Medical Follow-Up Agency shall*
5 *maintain and manage the assets transferred to the Agency*
6 *from the Air Force Health Study.*

7 (d) *ADDITIONAL NEAR-TERM RESEARCH.—*

8 (1) *IN GENERAL.—The Medical Follow-Up Agen-*
9 *cy may, during the period beginning on October 1,*
10 *2007, and ending on September 30, 2011, conduct*
11 *such additional research on the assets transferred to*
12 *the Agency from the Air Force Health Study as the*
13 *Agency considers appropriate toward the goal of un-*
14 *derstanding the determinants of health, and pro-*
15 *moting wellness, in veterans.*

16 (2) *RESEARCH.—In carrying out research au-*
17 *thorized by this subsection, the Medical Follow-Up*
18 *Agency may, utilizing amounts available under sub-*
19 *section (f)(1)(B), make grants for such pilot studies*
20 *for or in connection with such research as the Agency*
21 *considers appropriate.*

22 (e) *ADDITIONAL MEDIUM-TERM RESEARCH.—*

23 (1) *REPORT.—Not later than March 31, 2011,*
24 *the Medical Follow-Up Agency shall submit to Con-*
25 *gress a report assessing the feasibility and advis-*

1 *ability of conducting additional research on the assets*
2 *transferred to the Agency from the Air Force Health*
3 *Study after September 30, 2011.*

4 (2) *DISPOSITION OF ASSETS.*—*If the report re-*
5 *quired by paragraph (1) includes an assessment that*
6 *the research described in that paragraph would be*
7 *feasible and advisable, the Agency shall, utilizing*
8 *amounts available under subsection (f)(2), make any*
9 *disposition of the assets transferred to the Agency*
10 *from the Air Force Health Study as the Agency con-*
11 *siders appropriate in preparation for such research.*

12 *(f) FUNDING.*—

13 (1) *IN GENERAL.*—*From amounts available for*
14 *each of fiscal years 2008 through 2011 for the Depart-*
15 *ment of Veterans Affairs for Medical and Prosthetic*
16 *Research, amounts shall be available as follows:*

17 (A) *\$1,200,000 shall be available in each*
18 *such fiscal year for maintenance, management,*
19 *and operation (including maintenance of biologi-*
20 *cal specimens) of the assets transferred to the*
21 *Medical Follow-Up Agency from the Air Force*
22 *Health Study.*

23 (B) *\$250,000 shall be available in each such*
24 *fiscal year for the conduct of additional research*
25 *authorized by subsection (d), including the fund-*

1 *ing of pilot studies authorized by paragraph (2)*
 2 *of that subsection.*

3 (2) *MEDIUM-TERM RESEARCH.—From amounts*
 4 *available for fiscal year 2011 for the Department of*
 5 *Veterans Affairs for Medical and Prosthetic Research,*
 6 *\$200,000 shall be available for the preparation of the*
 7 *report required by subsection (e)(1) and for the dis-*
 8 *position, if any, of assets authorized by subsection*
 9 *(e)(2).*

10 **SEC. 806. NATIONAL ACADEMIES STUDY ON RISK OF DEVEL-**
 11 **OPING MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS AS A RESULT**
 12 **OF CERTAIN SERVICE IN THE PERSIAN GULF**
 13 **WAR AND POST 9/11 GLOBAL OPERATIONS**
 14 **THEATERS.**

15 (a) *IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Veterans Affairs*
 16 *shall enter into a contract with the Institute of Medicine*
 17 *of the National Academies to conduct a comprehensive epi-*
 18 *demiological study for purposes of identifying any in-*
 19 *creased risk of developing multiple sclerosis as a result of*
 20 *service in the Armed Forces during the Persian Gulf War*
 21 *in the Southwest Asia theater of operations or in the Post*
 22 *9/11 Global Operations theaters.*

23 (b) *ELEMENTS.—In conducting the study required*
 24 *under subsection (a), the Institute of Medicine shall do the*
 25 *following:*

1 (1) *Determine whether service in the Armed*
2 *Forces during the Persian Gulf War in the Southwest*
3 *Asia theater of operations, or in the Post 9/11 Global*
4 *Operations theaters, increased the risk of developing*
5 *multiple sclerosis.*

6 (2) *Identify the incidence and prevalence of di-*
7 *agnosed neurological diseases, including multiple scler-*
8 *osis, Parkinson's disease, amyotrophic lateral scler-*
9 *osis, and brain cancers, as well as central nervous*
10 *system abnormalities that are difficult to precisely di-*
11 *agnose, in each group as follows:*

12 (A) *Members of the Armed Forces who*
13 *served during the Persian Gulf War in the*
14 *Southwest Asia theater of operations.*

15 (B) *Members of the Armed Forces who*
16 *served in the Post 9/11 Global Operations thea-*
17 *ters.*

18 (C) *A non-deployed comparison group for*
19 *those who served in the Persian Gulf War in the*
20 *Southwest Asia theater of operations and the*
21 *Post 9/11 Global Operations theaters.*

22 (3) *Compare the incidence and prevalence of the*
23 *named diagnosed neurological diseases and*
24 *undiagnosed central nervous system abnormalities*
25 *among veterans who served during the Persian Gulf*

1 *War in the Southwest Asia theater of operations, or*
2 *in the Post 9/11 Global Operations theaters, in var-*
3 *ious locations during such periods, as determined by*
4 *the Institute of Medicine.*

5 (4) *Collect information on risk factors, such as*
6 *pesticide and other toxic exposures, to which veterans*
7 *were exposed while serving during the Persian Gulf*
8 *War in the Southwest Asia theater of operations or*
9 *the Post 9/11 Global Operations theaters, or there-*
10 *after.*

11 (c) *REPORTS.—*

12 (1) *INTERIM REPORT.—The contract required by*
13 *subsection (a) shall require the Institute of Medicine*
14 *to submit to the Secretary, and to appropriate com-*
15 *mittees of Congress, interim progress reports on the*
16 *study required under subsection (a). Such reports*
17 *shall not be required to include a description of in-*
18 *terim results on the work under the study.*

19 (2) *FINAL REPORT.—The contract shall require*
20 *the Institute of Medicine to submit to the Secretary,*
21 *and to appropriate committees of Congress, a final re-*
22 *port on the study by not later than December 31,*
23 *2010. The final report shall include such rec-*
24 *ommendations for legislative or administrative action*

1 *as the Institute considers appropriate in light of the*
2 *results of the study.*

3 *(d) FUNDING.—The Secretary shall provide the Insti-*
4 *tute of Medicine with such funds as are necessary to ensure*
5 *the timely completion of the study required under subsection*
6 *(a).*

7 *(e) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:*

8 *(1) The term “appropriate committees of Con-*
9 *gress” means—*

10 *(A) the Committee on Veterans’ Affairs of*
11 *the Senate; and*

12 *(B) the Committee on Veterans’ Affairs of*
13 *the House of Representatives.*

14 *(2) The term “Persian Gulf War” has the mean-*
15 *ing given that term in section 101(33) of title 38,*
16 *United States Code.*

17 *(3) The term “Post 9/11 Global Operations thea-*
18 *ters” means Afghanistan, Iraq, or any other theater*
19 *in which the Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary*
20 *Medal is awarded for service.*

1 **SEC. 807. COMPTROLLER GENERAL REPORT ON ADEQUACY**
2 **OF DEPENDENCY AND INDEMNITY COM-**
3 **PENSATION TO MAINTAIN SURVIVORS OF**
4 **VETERANS WHO DIE FROM SERVICE-CON-**
5 **NECTED DISABILITIES.**

6 (a) *REPORT REQUIRED.*—Not later than 10 months
7 after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Comptroller
8 General of the United States shall submit to the Committees
9 on Veterans' Affairs and Appropriations of the Senate and
10 the Committees on Veterans' Affairs and Appropriations of
11 the House of Representatives a report on the adequacy of
12 dependency and indemnity compensation payable under
13 chapter 13 of title 38, United States Code, to surviving
14 spouses and dependents of veterans who die as a result of
15 a service-connected disability in replacing the deceased vet-
16 eran's income.

17 (b) *ELEMENTS.*—The report required by subsection (a)
18 shall include—

19 (1) a description of the current system for the
20 payment of dependency and indemnity compensation
21 to surviving spouses and dependents described in sub-
22 section (a), including a statement of the rates of such
23 compensation so payable;

24 (2) an assessment of the adequacy of such pay-
25 ments in replacing the deceased veteran's income; and

1 (3) *such recommendations as the Comptroller*
2 *General considers appropriate in order to improve or*
3 *enhance the effects of such payments in replacing the*
4 *deceased veteran's income.*

Amend the title so as to read: "To amend title 38, United States Code, to enhance veterans' insurance and housing benefits, to improve benefits and services for transitioning servicemembers, and for other purposes."

Calendar No. 336

110TH CONGRESS
1ST Session

S. 1315

[Report No. 110-148]

A BILL

To amend title 38, United States Code, to enhance life insurance benefits for disabled veterans, and for other purposes.

AUGUST 29, 2007

Reported, under authority of the order of the Senate of August 3, 2007, with an amendment and an amendment to the title