

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 5540

To amend title 28, United States Code, to adjust the penalty for unjust conviction and imprisonment, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 19, 2025

Ms. WATERS introduced the following bill; which was referred to the
Committee on the Judiciary

A BILL

To amend title 28, United States Code, to adjust the penalty
for unjust conviction and imprisonment, 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 “Justice for Exonerees
5 Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. PENALTY FOR UNJUST CONVICTION AND IMPRIS-**
7 **ONMENT.**

8 Section 2513 of title 28, United States Code, is
9 amended—

1 (1) in subsection (e), by striking “\$50,000” and
2 inserting “\$70,000”; and
3 (2) by adding at the end the following:
4 “(f) The amount of damages awarded under sub-
5 section (e) shall be adjusted for inflation annually, based
6 on the Consumer Price Index.”.

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