

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 6036

To ensure that certain members of the Armed Forces who served in female cultural support teams receive proper credit for such service.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NOVEMBER 12, 2025

Mr. ISSA (for himself, Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS, Mr. CROW, and Ms. HOULAHAN) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs, and in addition to the Committee on Armed Services, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

A BILL

To ensure that certain members of the Armed Forces who served in female cultural support teams receive proper credit for such service.

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. CREDIT FOR CERTAIN MEMBERS OF THE**
4 **ARMED FORCES WHO SERVED IN FEMALE**
5 **CULTURAL SUPPORT TEAMS.**

6 (a) MILITARY SERVICE: RECORDS; CALCULATION OF
7 RETIRED PAY.—Not later than one year after the date
8 of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary concerned shall

1 ensure that the performance of covered service is included
2 in—

3 (1) the military service record of each individual
4 who performed covered service; and

5 (2) the computation of retired pay for each in-
6 dividual who performed covered service.

7 (b) CLAIMS FOR VETERANS BENEFITS ARISING
8 FROM COVERED SERVICE.—

9 (1) DETERMINATION OF SERVICE CONNEC-
10 TION.—Upon the filing of a claim by an individual
11 for service-connected disability or death incurred or
12 aggravated in the course of covered service, the Sec-
13 retary of Veterans Affairs shall determine whether
14 such disability or death was service-connected.

15 (2) TREATMENT OF COVERED SERVICE.—In the
16 consideration of a claim under this subsection, the
17 Secretary shall treat covered service as engagement
18 in combat with the enemy in the course of active
19 military, naval, air, or space service.

20 (3) EFFECTIVE DATE OF AWARD.—Except as
21 provided by subparagraph (B), the effective date of
22 an award under this subsection shall be determined
23 in accordance with section 5110 of title 38, United
24 States Code.

1 (4) PROCESSING OF CLAIMS.—The Secretary of
2 Veterans Affairs, in consultation with the Secretary
3 of Defense, shall improve training and guidance for
4 employees who may process a claim under this sub-
5 section.

6 (5) OUTREACH.—The Secretary shall conduct
7 outreach to inform individuals who performed cov-
8 ered service (and survivors of such individuals) that
9 they may submit supplemental claims for service-
10 connected disability or death incurred or aggravated
11 in the course of covered service. Such outreach shall
12 include the following:

13 (A) The Secretary shall publish on the
14 internet website of the Department a notice
15 that such individuals may elect to file a supple-
16 mental claim.

17 (B) The Secretary shall notify, in writing
18 or by electronic means, veterans service organi-
19 zations of the ability of such individuals to file
20 a supplemental claim.

21 (c) STUDY AND REPORT ON CERTAIN MEMBERS OF
22 THE ARMED FORCES.—

23 (1) STUDY.—The Secretary of Defense, in col-
24 laboration with the Secretary of Veterans Affairs,

1 shall conduct a study to identify the size and num-
2 ber of groups of individuals who—

3 (A) performed service as a member of the
4 Armed Forces that the Secretary of Defense
5 and Secretary of Veterans Affairs determine is
6 substantially similar to covered service; and

7 (B) have a military service record that
8 does not include such service as a member of
9 the Armed Forces.

10 (2) REPORT.—Not later than one year after the
11 date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of
12 Defense and the Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall
13 submit to Congress a report that includes the find-
14 ings of the study under paragraph (1).

15 (d) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

16 (1) The term “covered service” means service—

17 (A) as a member of the Armed Forces;

18 (B) in a female cultural support team;

19 (C) with the personnel development skill
20 identifier of R2J or 5DK; and

21 (D) during the period beginning on Janu-
22 ary 1, 2010, and ending on August 31, 2021.

23 (2) The terms “active military, naval, air, or
24 space service” and “service-connected” have the

1 meanings given such terms in section 101 of title 38,
2 United States Code.

3 (3) The term “Secretary concerned” has the
4 meaning given such term in section 101 of title 10,
5 United States Code.

6 **SEC. 2. REPORT ON CERTAIN CLAIMS FOR SERVICE-CON-**
7 **NECTED DISABILITY.**

8 (a) REPORT REQUIRED.—Not later than one year
9 after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary
10 of Veterans Affairs shall submit to the Committees on
11 Veterans’ Affairs of the Senate and House of Representa-
12 tives a report regarding covered claims. Such report shall
13 include the numbers of covered claims, disaggregated by
14 gender of the claimant and whether the military service
15 record of the claimant includes a combat identifier, that,
16 respectively—

- 17 (1) were submitted;
18 (2) were granted;
19 (3) were denied;
20 (4) were unresolved; or
21 (5) were appealed.

22 (b) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

- 23 (1) The term “covered claim” means a claim—
24 (A) for service-connected disability;

1 (B) on the basis of post-traumatic stress
2 disorder or traumatic brain injury; and

3 (C) submitted to the Secretary of Veterans
4 Affairs on or after January 1, 1990.

5 (2) The term “service-connected” has the
6 meaning given such term in section 101 of title 38,
7 United States Code.

8 **SEC. 3. MODIFICATION OF CERTAIN HOUSING LOAN FEES.**

9 The loan fee table in section 3729(b)(2) of title 38,
10 United States Code, is amended by striking “November
11 15, 2031” each place it appears and inserting “December
12 3, 2031”.

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