

105TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 1649

To make retroactive the entitlement of certain Medal of Honor recipients to the special pension provided for persons entered and recorded on the Army, Navy, Air Force, and Coast Guard Medal of Honor Roll.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 15, 1997

Mrs. CHENOWETH introduced the following bill; which was referred to the  
Committee on Veterans' Affairs

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## A BILL

To make retroactive the entitlement of certain Medal of Honor recipients to the special pension provided for persons entered and recorded on the Army, Navy, Air Force, and Coast Guard Medal of Honor Roll.

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. RETROACTIVITY OF MEDAL OF HONOR SPE-**  
4       **cial Pension.**

5       (a) ENTITLEMENT.—In the case of Vernon J. Baker,  
6       Edward A. Carter, Junior, and Charles L. Thomas, who  
7       were awarded the Medal of Honor pursuant to section 561  
8       of Public Law 104–201 (110 Stat. 2529) and whose

1 names have been entered and recorded on the Army, Navy,  
2 Air Force, and Coast Guard Medal of Honor Roll, the en-  
3 titlement of those persons to the special pension provided  
4 under section 1562 of title 38, United States Code (and  
5 antecedent provisions of law), shall be effective as follows:

6 (1) In the case of Vernon J. Baker, for months  
7 that begin after April 1945.

8 (2) In the case of Edward A. Carter, Junior,  
9 for months that begin after March 1945.

10 (3) In the case of Charles L. Thomas, for  
11 months that begin after December 1944.

12 (b) AMOUNT.—The amount of the special pension  
13 payable under subsection (a) for a month beginning before  
14 the date of the enactment of this Act shall be the amount  
15 of the special pension provided by law for that month for  
16 persons entered and recorded on the Army, Navy, Air  
17 Force, and Coast Guard Medal of Honor Roll (or an ante-  
18 cedent Medal of Honor Roll required by law).

19 (c) PAYMENT TO NEXT OF KIN.—In the case of a  
20 person referred to in subsection (a) who died before receiv-  
21 ing full payment of the pension pursuant to this section,  
22 the Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall pay the total  
23 amount of the accrued pension, upon receipt of application  
24 for payment within one year after the date of the enact-  
25 ment of this Act, to the deceased person's spouse or, if

- 1 there is no surviving spouse, then to the deceased person's
- 2 children, per stirpes, in equal shares.

