Calendar No. 593

105TH CONGRESS 2D SESSION

S. 2273

[Report No. 105-341]

To increase, effective as of December 1, 1998, the rates of disability compensation for veterans with service-connected disabilities, and the rates of dependency and indemnity compensation for survivors of certain service-connected disabled veterans, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

July 8, 1998

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

September 21, 1998

Reported by Mr. Specter, with an amendment

[Omit the part struck through and insert the part printed in italic]

A BILL

To increase, effective as of December 1, 1998, the rates of disability compensation for veterans with service-connected disabilities, and the rates of dependency and indemnity compensation for survivors of certain service-connected 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,

1 SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

- 2 This Act may be cited as the "Veterans' Compensa-
- 3 tion Cost-of-Living Adjustment Act of 1998".
- 4 SEC. 2. INCREASE IN COMPENSATION RATES AND LIMITA-
- 5 TIONS.
- 6 (a) IN GENERAL.—(1) The Secretary of Veterans Af-
- 7 fairs shall, as provided in paragraph (2), increase, effec-
- 8 tive December 1, 1998, the rates of and limitations on
- 9 Department of Veterans Affairs disability compensation
- 10 and dependency and indemnity compensation.
- 11 (2) The Secretary shall increase each of the rates and
- 12 limitations in sections 1114, 1115(1), 1162, 1311, 1313,
- 13 and 1314 of title 38, United States Code, that were in-
- 14 creased by the amendments made by the Veterans' Com-
- 15 pensation Rate Amendments of 1997 (Public Law 105-
- 16 98; 111 Stat. 2155). This increase shall be made in such
- 17 rates and limitations as in effect on November 30, 1998,
- 18 and shall be by the same percentage that benefit amounts
- 19 payable under title II of the Social Security Act (42
- 20 U.S.C. 401 et seq.) are increased effective December 1,
- 21 1998, as a result of a determination under section 215(i)
- 22 of such Act (42 U.S.C. 415(i)).
- 23 (3) In the computation of increased dollar amounts
- 24 pursuant to paragraph (2), any amount which as so com-
- 25 puted is not an even multiple of \$1 shall be rounded to
- 26 the next lower whole dollar amount.

- 1 (b) Special Rule.—The Secretary may adjust ad-
- 2 ministratively, consistent with the increases made under
- 3 subsection (a), the rates of disability compensation pay-
- 4 able to persons within the purview of section 10 of Public
- 5 Law 85–857 (72 Stat. 1263) who are not in receipt of
- 6 compensation payable pursuant to chapter 11 of title 38,
- 7 United States Code.
- 8 (c) Publication Requirement.—At the same time
- 9 as the matters specified in section 215(i)(2)(D) of the So-
- 10 cial Security Act (42 U.S.C. 415(i)(2)(D)) are required
- 11 to be published by reason of a determination made under
- 12 section 215(i) of such Act during fiscal year 1998 1999,
- 13 the Secretary shall publish in the Federal Register the
- 14 rates and limitations referred to in subsection (a)(2) as
- 15 increased under this section.

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