

Calendar No. 216

106TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 1393

[Report No. 106–108]

To provide a cost-of-living adjustment in rates of compensation for veterans with service-connected disabilities and dependency and indemnity compensation for survivors of such veterans, to amend title 38, United States Code, to codify the previous cost-of-living adjustment in such rates, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JULY 19, 1999

Mr. SPECTER, from the Committee on Veterans' Affairs, reported the following original bill; which was read twice and placed on the calendar

A BILL

To provide a cost-of-living adjustment in rates of compensation for veterans with service-connected disabilities and dependency and indemnity compensation for survivors of such veterans, to amend title 38, United States Code, to codify the previous cost-of-living adjustment in such rates, 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 1999”.

4 **SEC. 2. REFERENCES TO TITLE 38, UNITED STATES CODE.**

5 Except as otherwise expressly provided, whenever in
6 this Act an amendment or repeal is expressed in terms
7 of an amendment to, or repeal of, a section or other provi-
8 sion, the reference shall be considered to be made to a
9 section or other provision of title 38, United States Code.

10 **SEC. 3. INCREASE IN RATES OF DISABILITY COMPENSA-**
11 **TION AND DEPENDENCY AND INDEMNITY**
12 **COMPENSATION.**

13 (a) RATE ADJUSTMENT.—The Secretary of Veterans
14 Affairs shall, effective on December 1, 1999, increase the
15 dollar amounts in effect for the payment of disability com-
16 pensation and dependency and indemnity compensation by
17 the Secretary, as specified in subsection (b).

18 (b) AMOUNTS TO BE INCREASED.—The dollar
19 amounts to be increased pursuant to subsection (a) are
20 the following:

21 (1) COMPENSATION.—Each of the dollar
22 amounts in effect under section 1114 of title 38,
23 United States Code.

24 (2) ADDITIONAL COMPENSATION FOR DEPEND-
25 ENTS.—Each of the dollar amounts in effect under
26 sections 1115(1) of such title.

1 (3) CLOTHING ALLOWANCE.—The dollar
2 amount in effect under section 1162 of such title.

3 (4) NEW DIC RATES.—The dollar amounts in
4 effect under paragraphs (1) and (2) of section
5 1311(a) of such title.

6 (5) OLD DIC RATES.—Each of the dollar
7 amounts in effect under section 1311(a)(3) of such
8 title.

9 (6) ADDITIONAL DIC FOR SURVIVING SPOUSES
10 WITH MINOR CHILDREN.—The dollar amount in ef-
11 fect under section 1311(b) of such title.

12 (7) ADDITIONAL DIC FOR DISABILITY.—The
13 dollar amounts in effect under sections 1311(c) and
14 1311(d) of such title.

15 (8) DIC FOR DEPENDENT CHILDREN.—The
16 dollar amounts in effect under sections 1313(a) and
17 1314 of such title.

18 (c) DETERMINATION OF INCREASE.—(1) The in-
19 crease under subsection (a) shall be made in the dollar
20 amounts specified in subsection (b) as in effect on Novem-
21 ber 30, 1999.

22 (2) Except as provided in paragraph (3), each such
23 amount shall be increased by the same percentage as the
24 percentage by which benefit amounts payable under title
25 II of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 401 et seq.) are

1 increased effective December 1, 1999, as a result of a de-
2 termination under section 215(i) of such Act (42 U.S.C.
3 415(i)).

4 (3) Each dollar amount increased pursuant to para-
5 graph (2) shall, if not a whole dollar amount, be rounded
6 down to the next lower whole dollar amount.

7 (d) SPECIAL RULE.—The Secretary of Veterans Af-
8 fairs may adjust administratively, consistent with the in-
9 creases made under subsection (a), the rates of disability
10 compensation payable to persons within the purview of
11 section 10 of Public Law 85–857 (72 Stat. 1263) who are
12 not in receipt of compensation payable pursuant to chap-
13 ter 11 of title 38, United States Code.

14 **SEC. 4. PUBLICATION OF ADJUSTED RATES.**

15 At the same time as the matters specified in section
16 215(i)(2)(D) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C.
17 415(i)(2)(D)) are required to be published by reason of
18 a determination made under section 215(i) of such Act
19 during fiscal year 2000, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs
20 shall publish in the Federal Register the amounts specified
21 in subsection (b) of section 3, as increased pursuant to
22 that section.

23 **SEC. 5. DISABILITY COMPENSATION RATE AMENDMENTS.**

24 Section 1114 is amended—

1 (1) by striking “\$95” in subsection (a) and in-
2 serting “\$96”;

3 (2) by striking “\$182” in subsection (b) and in-
4 serting “\$184”;

5 (3) by striking “\$279” in subsection (c) and in-
6 serting “\$282”;

7 (4) by striking “\$399” in subsection (d) and in-
8 serting “\$404”;

9 (5) by striking “\$569” in subsection (e) and in-
10 serting “\$576”;

11 (6) by striking “\$717” in subsection (f) and in-
12 serting “\$726”;

13 (7) by striking “\$905” in subsection (g) and in-
14 serting “\$916”;

15 (8) by striking “\$1,049” in subsection (h) and
16 inserting “\$1,062”;

17 (9) by striking “\$1,181” in subsection (i) and
18 inserting “\$1,196”;

19 (10) by striking “\$1,964” in subsection (j) and
20 inserting “\$1,989”;

21 (11) by striking “\$2,443” and “\$3,426” in sub-
22 section (k) and inserting “\$2,474” and “\$3,470”,
23 respectively;

24 (12) by striking “\$2,443” in subsection (l) and
25 inserting “\$2,474”;

1 (13) by striking “\$2,694” in subsection (m)
2 and inserting “\$2,729”;

3 (14) by striking “\$3,066” in subsection (n) and
4 inserting “\$3,105”;

5 (15) by striking “\$3,426” each place it appears
6 in subsections (o) and (p) and inserting “\$3,470”;

7 (16) by striking “\$1,471” and “\$2,190” in sub-
8 section (r) and inserting “\$1,490” and “\$2,218”,
9 respectively; and

10 (17) by striking “\$2,199” in subsection (s) and
11 inserting “\$2,227”.

12 **SEC. 6. RATE AMENDMENTS FOR ADDITIONAL COMPENSA-**
13 **TION FOR DEPENDENTS.**

14 Section 1115(1) is amended—

15 (1) by striking “\$114” in clause (A) and insert-
16 ing “\$115”;

17 (2) by striking “\$195” in clause (B) and insert-
18 ing “\$197”;

19 (3) by striking “\$78” in clause (C) and insert-
20 ing “\$79”;

21 (4) by striking “\$92” in clause (D) and insert-
22 ing “\$93”;

23 (5) by striking “\$215” in clause (E) and insert-
24 ing “\$217”; and

(6) by striking “\$180” in clause (F) and inserting “\$182”.

SEC. 7. RATE AMENDMENT FOR CLOTHING ALLOWANCE FOR CERTAIN DISABLED VETERANS.

Section 1162 is amended by striking “\$528” and inserting “\$534”.

SEC. 8. RATE AMENDMENTS FOR DEPENDENCY AND INDEMNITY COMPENSATION FOR SURVIVING SPOUSES.

(a) NEW LAW RATES.—Section 1311(a) is amended—

(1) by striking “\$850” in paragraph (1) and inserting “\$861”; and

(2) by striking “\$185” in paragraph (2) and inserting “\$187”.

(b) OLD LAW RATES.—The table in section 1311(a)(3) is amended to read as follows:

“Pay grade	Monthly rate	Pay grade	Monthly rate
E-1	\$861	W-4	\$1,030
E-2	861	O-1	909
E-3	861	O-2	940
E-4	861	O-3	1,004
E-5	861	O-4	1,062
E-6	861	O-5	1,170
E-7	890	O-6	1,318
E-8	940	O-7	1,424
E-9	¹ 980	O-8	1,561
W-1	909	O-9	1,672
W-2	946	O-10	² 1,834
W-3	974		

¹If the veteran served as sergeant major of the Army, senior enlisted advisor of the Navy, chief master sergeant of the Air Force, sergeant major of the Marine Corps, or master chief petty officer of the Coast Guard, at the applicable time designated by section 1302 of this title, the surviving spouse’s rate shall be \$1,057.

“²If the veteran served as Chairman or Vice Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Chief of Staff of the Army, Chief of Naval Operations, Chief of Staff of the Air Force, Commandant of the Marine Corps, or Commandant of the Coast Guard, at the applicable time designated by section 1302 of this title, the surviving spouse’s rate shall be \$1,966.”.

1 (c) ADDITIONAL DIC FOR CHILDREN.—Section
2 1311(b) is amended by striking “\$215” and inserting
3 “\$217”.

4 (d) AID AND ATTENDANCE ALLOWANCE.—Section
5 1311(c) is amended by striking “\$215” and inserting
6 “\$217”.

7 (e) HOUSEBOUND RATE.—Section 1311(d) is amend-
8 ed by striking “\$104” and inserting “\$105”.

9 **SEC. 9. RATE AMENDMENTS FOR DEPENDENCY AND IN-**
10 **DEMNITY COMPENSATION FOR CHILDREN.**

11 (a) DIC FOR ORPHAN CHILDREN.—Section 1313(a)
12 is amended—

13 (1) by striking “\$361” in paragraph (1) and in-
14 serting “\$365”;

15 (2) by striking “\$520” in paragraph (2) and in-
16 serting “\$526”;

17 (3) by striking “\$675” in paragraph (3) and in-
18 serting “\$683”; and

19 (4) by striking “\$675” and “\$132” in para-
20 graph (4) and inserting “\$683” and “\$133”, respec-
21 tively.

1 (b) SUPPLEMENTAL DIC FOR DISABLED ADULT
2 CHILDREN.—Section 1314 is amended—

3 (1) by striking “\$215” in subsection (a) and in-
4 serting “\$217”;

5 (2) by striking “\$361” in subsection (b) and in-
6 serting “\$365”; and

7 (3) by striking “\$182” in subsection (c) and in-
8 serting “\$184”.

9 **SEC. 10. EFFECTIVE DATE.**

10 The amendments made by this Act shall take effect
11 on November 30, 1999.

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