

108TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 303

To amend title 10, United States Code, to permit retired members of the Armed Forces who have a service-connected disability to receive both military retired pay by reason of their years of military service and disability compensation from the Department of Veterans Affairs for their disability.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 8, 2003

Mr. BILIRAKIS (for himself, Mr. EVANS, Mr. WHITFIELD, Mr. FILNER, Mr. ROSS, Mr. HASTINGS of Washington, Mr. PAYNE, Mr. BARTLETT of Maryland, Mr. JONES of North Carolina, Mr. MILLER of Florida, Mr. RODRIGUEZ, Mr. NADLER, Mr. EDWARDS, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mr. KENNEDY of Minnesota, Mr. BONILLA, Mr. SHAW, Mrs. WILSON of New Mexico, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. GOODLATTE, Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART of Florida, and Mr. OSBORNE) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Armed Services, and in addition to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs, 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 amend title 10, United States Code, to permit retired members of the Armed Forces who have a service-connected disability to receive both military retired pay by reason of their years of military service and disability compensation from the Department of Veterans Affairs for their disability.

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 “Retired Pay Restora-
5 tion Act of 2003”.

6 **SEC. 2. FULL PAYMENT OF BOTH RETIRED PAY AND COM-**
7 **PENSATION TO DISABLED MILITARY RETIR-**
8 **EES.**

9 (a) RESTORATION OF FULL RETIRED PAY BENE-
10 FITS.—Section 1414 of title 10, United States Code, is
11 amended to read as follows:

12 **“§ 1414. Members eligible for retired pay who have**
13 **service-connected disabilities: payment of**
14 **retired pay and veterans’ disability com-**
15 **pen-sation**

16 “(a) PAYMENT OF BOTH RETIRED PAY AND COM-
17 PENSATION.—Except as provided in subsection (b), a
18 member or former member of the uniformed services who
19 is entitled to retired pay (other than as specified in sub-
20 section (c)) and who is also entitled to veterans’ disability
21 compensation is entitled to be paid both without regard
22 to sections 5304 and 5305 of title 38.

23 “(b) SPECIAL RULE FOR CHAPTER 61 CAREER RE-
24 TIREES.—The retired pay of a member retired under
25 chapter 61 of this title with 20 years or more of service

1 otherwise creditable under section 1405 of this title at the
2 time of the member's retirement is subject to reduction
3 under sections 5304 and 5305 of title 38, but only to the
4 extent that the amount of the member's retired pay under
5 chapter 61 of this title exceeds the amount of retired pay
6 to which the member would have been entitled under any
7 other provision of law based upon the member's service
8 in the uniformed services if the member had not been re-
9 tired under chapter 61 of this title.

10 “(c) EXCEPTION.—Subsection (a) does not apply to
11 a member retired under chapter 61 of this title with less
12 than 20 years of service otherwise creditable under section
13 1405 of this title at the time of the member's retirement.

14 “(d) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

15 “(1) The term ‘retired pay’ includes retainer
16 pay, emergency officers retirement pay, and naval
17 pension.

18 “(2) The term ‘veterans’ disability compensa-
19 tion’ has the meaning given the term ‘compensation’
20 in section 101(13) of title 38.”.

21 (b) REPEAL OF SPECIAL COMPENSATION PRO-
22 GRAMS.—Sections 1413 and 1413a of such title are re-
23 pealed.

24 (c) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections
25 at the beginning of such chapter is amended by striking

1 the items relating to sections 1413, 1413a, and 1414 and
2 inserting the following:

“1414. Members eligible for retired pay who have service-connected disabilities:
payment of retired pay and veterans’ disability compensation.”.

3 **SEC. 3. EFFECTIVE DATE; PROHIBITION ON RETROACTIVE**
4 **BENEFITS.**

5 (a) **IN GENERAL.**—The amendments made by this
6 Act shall take effect on—

7 (1) the first day of the first month that begins
8 after the date of the enactment of this Act; or

9 (2) the first day of the fiscal year that begins
10 in the calendar year in which this Act is enacted, if
11 later than the date specified in paragraph (1).

12 (b) **RETROACTIVE BENEFITS.**—No benefits may be
13 paid to any person by reason of section 1414 of title 10,
14 United States Code, as amended by section 2(a), for any
15 period before the effective date specified in subsection (a).

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