109TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1352

To amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow employers to claim a work opportunity credit for hiring military service personnel returning from service in Iraq or Afghanistan and for hiring their dependents and dependents of deceased personnel.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 16, 2005

Ms. SCHWARTZ of Pennsylvania (for herself and Mr. SCHWARZ of Michigan) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Ways and Means

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A BILL

To amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow employers to claim a work opportunity credit for hiring military service personnel returning from service in Iraq or Afghanistan and for hiring their dependents and dependents of deceased personnel.

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 "Veterans Employment

5 and Respect Act of 2005".

**SEC. 2. WORK OPPORTUNITY CREDIT ALLOWABLE FOR HIR-
ING MILITARY SERVICE PERSONNEL RE-
TURNING FROM SERVICE IN AFGHANISTAN
OR IRAQ AND FOR HIRING DEPENDENTS OF
AFGHANISTAN AND IRAQ-ERA VETERANS.**

(a) IN GENERAL.—Paragraph (1) of section 51(d) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (relating to members of targeted groups) is amended by striking "or" at the end of subparagraph (G), by striking the period at the end of subparagraph (H) and inserting a comma, and by adding at the end the following new subparagraphs:

"(I) a qualified veteran of Afghanistan or Iraq, or

"(J) a qualified dependent of an Afghanistan or Iraq-era veteran." .

(b) DEFINITIONS.—Subsection (d) of section 51 of such Code is amended by redesignating paragraphs (10) through (12) as paragraphs (11) through (13), respectively, and by inserting after paragraph (9) the following new paragraph:

"(10) QUALIFIED AFGHANISTAN OR IRAQ VET-
ERANS, ETC.—

"(A) QUALIFIED VETERAN OF AFGHANI-
STAN OR IRAQ.—The term 'qualified veteran of Afghanistan or Iraq' means any veteran (as de-

1   fined in paragraph (3)(B)) who is certified by

2   the designated local agency—

3   ''(i) as having performed services—

4   ''(I) in an area designated by the

5   President pursuant to the subpara-

6   graph as the 'Operation Iraqi Free-

7   dom Area' or as the 'Operation En-

8   during Freedom Area', and

9   ''(II) during the period after Oc-

10   tober 6, 2001, before the date that

11   the President specifies as the termi-

12   nation of United States combatant ac-

13   tivities in such area, respectively, and

14   ''(ii) as having a hiring date which is

15   not more than 2 years after the date that

16   the veteran is discharged or released from

17   active duty in the Armed Forces of the

18   United States .

19   ''(B) QUALIFIED DEPENDENT OF

20   AFGHASISTAN OR IRAQ-ERA VETERAN.—The

21   term 'qualified dependent of an Afghanistan or

22   Iraq-era veteran' means any individual who is

23   certified by the designated local agency—

1   "(i) as being a dependent (as defined

2   in section 401 of title 37, United States

3   Code) of—

4   "(I) a member of the Armed

5   Forces of the United States at the

6   time such member died as a result of

7   wounds or injuries sustained while

8   performing services described in sub-

9   paragraph (A)(i), or

10   "(II) a member of a reserve com-

11   ponent of the Armed Forces of the

12   United States at the time such mem-

13   ber was called or ordered to active

14   duty if—

15   "(aa) such call or order was

16   for a period in excess of 180 days

17   or for an indefinite period, and

18   "(bb) such call or order is

19   during the period described in

20   subparagraph (A)(i), and

21   "(ii) as having a hiring date—

22   "(I) in a case to which clause

23   (i)(I) applies, which is not more than

24   2 years after the member's date of

25   death, and

1   ''(II) in a case to which clause

2   (i)(II) applies, which is during the pe-

3   riod of the member's active duty.''.

4   (c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by

5 this section shall apply to individuals beginning work for

6 the employer after October 6, 2001.

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