

109TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 493

To amend title 37, United States Code, to establish an allowance to cover the cost of premiums for Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance coverage for members of the Armed Forces serving in combat zones, for junior enlisted members, and for certain other members.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 1, 2005

Mr. REYES introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Armed Services

A BILL

To amend title 37, United States Code, to establish an allowance to cover the cost of premiums for Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance coverage for members of the Armed Forces serving in combat zones, for junior enlisted members, and for certain other members.

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 “Ruben Estrella-Soto
5 Act of 2005”.

1 **SEC. 2. ALLOWANCE FOR CERTAIN MEMBERS TO COVER**
2 **MONTHLY DEDUCTION FROM BASIC PAY FOR**
3 **SERVICEMEMBERS' GROUP LIFE INSURANCE**
4 **COVERAGE.**

5 (a) ALLOWANCE TO COVER SGLI DEDUCTIONS.—
6 Chapter 7 of title 37, United States Code, is amended by
7 adding at the end the following new section:

8 **“§ 437. Allowance to cover monthly deduction from**
9 **basic pay for Servicemembers' Group Life**
10 **Insurance coverage**

11 “(a) ALLOWANCE REQUIRED.—The Secretary con-
12 cerned shall provide an allowance under this section to a
13 member of the armed forces who has obtained insurance
14 coverage for the member under the Servicemembers'
15 Group Life Insurance program for each month during
16 which any of the following eligibility criteria apply with
17 respect to the member, as determined by the Secretary
18 concerned:

19 “(1) The member served at any time during the
20 month in an area for which special pay is available
21 under section 310 of this title (in this subsection re-
22 ferred to as a ‘combat zone’).

23 “(2) The member underwent training at any
24 time during the month for immediate deployment to
25 a combat zone.

1 “(3) The member underwent outprocessing at
2 any time during the month immediately following re-
3 turn from a combat zone.

4 “(4) The member was in transit at any time
5 during the month to or from a combat zone, includ-
6 ing transit in connection with authorized leave from
7 the combat zone.

8 “(5) The member was hospitalized at any time
9 during the month as a result of a wound, injury, ill-
10 ness, or other medical condition incurred or aggra-
11 vated in a combat zone.

12 “(6) The member is serving in pay grade E-1
13 through E-4.

14 “(b) AMOUNT OF ALLOWANCE.—The amount of the
15 allowance for a member for a month shall be equal to the
16 amount of the deduction made for that month from the
17 basic pay of the member for the level of Servicemembers’
18 Group Life Insurance coverage obtained by the member
19 under section 1967 of title 38.

20 “(c) NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF ALLOWANCE.—To
21 the maximum extent practicable, the Secretary concerned
22 shall give members information the regarding the fol-
23 lowing:

1 “(1) The availability of the allowance under this
2 section for members insured under the
3 Servicemembers’ Group Life Insurance program.

4 “(2) The ability of members who elected not to
5 be insured under Servicemembers’ Group Life Insur-
6 ance, or elected less than the authorized maximum
7 coverage, to obtain additional coverage as provided
8 in section 1967(c) of title 38.”.

9 (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections
10 at the beginning of chapter 7 of title 37, United States
11 Code, is amended by adding at the end the following new
12 item:

“437. Allowance to cover monthly deduction from basic pay for Servicemembers’
Group Life Insurance coverage.”.

13 (c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—Section 437 of title 37,
14 United States Code, as added by subsection (a), shall
15 apply to months beginning after September 30, 2005.

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