

110TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 4068

For the relief of Richelle Starnes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NOVEMBER 1, 2007

Mr. FEENEY introduced the following bill; which was referred to the
Committee on the Judiciary

A BILL

For the relief of Richelle Starnes.

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. FINDINGS.**

4 Congress finds the following:

5 (1) In 1979, Kathy Baker contracted HIV as
6 the direct result of an ectopic pregnancy
7 misdiagnosed by her naval physician at Mare Island
8 Naval Clinic in Vallejo, California. This misdiagnosis
9 precipitated an emergency blood transfusion, which
10 was later determined to be the source of her infec-
11 tion.

1 (2) In 1980, Kathy Baker gave birth to her
2 daughter Richelle (now known as Richelle Starnes),
3 who was born with HIV.

4 (3) Because of the Navy's culpability for
5 Richelle's condition, Richelle has received treatment
6 from the Navy as a Secretary of the Navy Designee.
7 However, the Navy recently informed Richelle that
8 the Navy would only extend her treatment for out-
9 patient care for 3 additional years, and it would no
10 longer pay for inpatient treatment or prescribed
11 medications.

12 **SEC. 2. REIMBURSEMENT FOR MEDICAL CARE.**

13 (a) INPATIENT AND OUTPATIENT CARE.—The Sec-
14 retary of the Navy shall reimburse Richelle Starnes for
15 the costs of inpatient and outpatient treatment she re-
16 ceives at any naval medical facility (unless she is denied
17 service at such a facility, in which case she may seek reim-
18 bursement for such treatment at a private medical facility)
19 for any care arising from or related to HIV or the treat-
20 ment of HIV.

21 (b) PRESCRIPTION MEDICATION.—The Secretary of
22 the Navy shall reimburse Richelle Starnes for the costs
23 of medication that is prescribed for reasons arising from
24 or related to HIV or the treatment of HIV.

○