

114TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 454

To amend title 10, United States Code, to provide for forgiveness of certain overpayments of retired pay paid to deceased retired members of the Armed Forces following their death.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 21, 2015

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

A BILL

To amend title 10, United States Code, to provide for forgiveness of certain overpayments of retired pay paid to deceased retired members of the Armed Forces following their death.

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 “Military Retiree Sur-
5 vivor Comfort Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. FORGIVENESS OF CERTAIN OVERPAYMENTS OF RE-**
 2 **TIRED PAY PAID FOR PERIODS AFTER DEATH**
 3 **OF RETIRED MEMBERS.**

4 (a) FORGIVENESS WHEN PAYMENTS DEPOSITED TO
 5 JOINT ACCOUNTS.—Section 2771 of title 10, United
 6 States Code, is amended by adding at the end the fol-
 7 lowing new subsection:

8 “(e) The United States shall forgive any overpayment
 9 of retired or retainer pay arising from payment of such
 10 retired or retainer pay for any period after the date of
 11 the death of the recipient through the last day of the
 12 month in which such death occurs if such payment is elec-
 13 tronically deposited in an accredited financial institution
 14 to a joint account bearing the name of the decedent and
 15 another individual who is the decedent’s designated bene-
 16 ficiary under subsection (a)(1).”.

17 (b) COORDINATION WITH SURVIVOR BENEFIT
 18 PLAN.—Section 1450 of title 10, United States Code, is
 19 amended—

20 (1) in subsection (a), by inserting “or that ap-
 21 plies under subsection (n)” after “under subsection
 22 (j)”; and

23 (2) by adding at the end the following new sub-
 24 section:

25 “(n) SPECIAL EFFECTIVE DATE RULE WHEN FINAL
 26 RETIRED PAY OVERPAYMENT IS FORGIVEN.—

1 “(1) ANNUITY EFFECTIVE ON FIRST DAY OF
2 MONTH AFTER DEATH.—In a case covered by para-
3 graph (2), an annuity payable to a surviving spouse
4 shall be effective on the first day of the first month
5 beginning after the death of the person to whom sec-
6 tion 1448 of this title applies, rather than on the
7 date otherwise applicable under subsection (a).

8 “(2) COVERED CASES.—Paragraph (1) applies
9 in a case in which—

10 “(A) there is an overpayment of retired
11 pay of a person to whom section 1448 of this
12 title applies that is forgiven pursuant to section
13 2771(e) of this title; and

14 “(B) the person who is the designated ben-
15 eficiary of such person under section
16 2771(a)(1) of this title is the surviving spouse
17 of such person.”.

18 (c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—Subsection (e) of section
19 2771 of title 10, United States Code, as added by sub-
20 section (a), shall apply with respect to payments made to
21 persons dying on or after the date of the enactment of
22 this Act.

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