



(Original Signature of Member)

117TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. _____

To amend title 38, United States Code, to make certain improvements in the laws relating to the administration of certain benefits payable to survivors of deceased veterans, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Ms. STEFANIK introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on _____

A BILL

To amend title 38, United States Code, to make certain improvements in the laws relating to the administration of certain benefits payable to survivors of deceased veterans, and for other purposes.

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 “Ernest Peltz Accrued
5 Veterans Benefits Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. PAYMENT OF CERTAIN BENEFITS TO SURVIVORS OF**
2 **DECEASED VETERANS BY SECRETARY OF**
3 **VETERANS AFFAIRS.**

4 (a) PAYMENT OF BENEFITS FOR MONTH OF
5 DEATH.—Section 5310 of title 38, United States Code,
6 is amended—

7 (1) in subsection (a)(1), by striking “A sur-
8 viving spouse” and inserting “An eligible survivor”;

9 (2) in subsection (b), by striking “surviving
10 spouse” both places it appears and inserting “eligi-
11 ble survivor”; and

12 (3) by adding at the end the following new sub-
13 section:

14 “(c) ELIGIBLE SURVIVOR DEFINED.—In this section,
15 the term ‘eligible survivor’ means the living person first
16 listed below:

17 “(1) The veteran’s spouse.

18 “(2) The veteran’s children (in equal shares).

19 “(3) The veteran’s dependent parents (in equal
20 shares).”.

21 (b) ACCRUED BENEFITS.—Section 5121 of title 38,
22 United States Code is amended by adding at the end the
23 following new subsection:

24 “(d) The amount of the accrued benefit payable
25 under subsection (a) on behalf on an individual is the total
26 amount of the periodic monetary benefits (other than in-

1 surance and servicemen's indemnity) under laws adminis-
2 tered by the Secretary to which the individual was entitled
3 at death for the entire period of time for which the indi-
4 vidual was entitled to, but did not receive, such benefits.”.

5 (c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by
6 this section shall take effect on the date of the enactment
7 of this Act and shall apply with respect to deaths that
8 occur on or after that date.