

110TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 3793

To amend title 37, United States Code, to require the Secretary of Defense to continue to pay to a member of the Armed Forces who is retired or separated from the Armed Forces due to a combat-related injury certain bonuses that the member was entitled to before the retirement or separation and would continue to be entitled to if the member was not retired or separated.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

OCTOBER 10, 2007

Mr. ALTMIRE (for himself, Mr. STEARNS, Mr. JONES of North Carolina, and Mr. PATRICK J. MURPHY of Pennsylvania) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Armed Services

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## A BILL

To amend title 37, United States Code, to require the Secretary of Defense to continue to pay to a member of the Armed Forces who is retired or separated from the Armed Forces due to a combat-related injury certain bonuses that the member was entitled to before the retirement or separation and would continue to be entitled to if the member was not retired or separated.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “Veterans Guaranteed  
3 Bonus Act of 2007”.

4 **SEC. 2. CONTINUATION OF CERTAIN BONUS PAYMENTS TO**  
5 **MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES RETIRED**  
6 **OR SEPARATED DUE TO A COMBAT-RELATED**  
7 **INJURY.**

8 (a) PAYMENT REQUIRED.—Chapter 17 of title 37,  
9 United States Code, is amended by inserting after section  
10 903 the following new section:

11 **“§ 904. Continued payment of bonuses to members re-**  
12 **tired or separated due to combat-related**  
13 **injuries**

14 “(a) PAYMENT REQUIRED.—In the case of a member  
15 of the armed forces who is retired or separated for dis-  
16 ability under chapter 61 of title 10, due to a combat-re-  
17 lated injury, the Secretary of Defense shall require the  
18 continued payment to the member of any bonus described  
19 in subsection (b) that the member—

20 “(1) was entitled to immediately before the re-  
21 tirement or separation of the member; and

22 “(2) would continue to be entitled to if the  
23 member was not retired or separated.

24 “(b) COVERED BONUSES.—The bonuses referred to  
25 in subsection (a) are the following (numbers refer to the  
26 corresponding section in chapter 5 of this title):

1           “(1) 301b. Special pay for aviation career offi-  
2           cers extending period of active duty.

3           “(2) 301d. Multiyear retention bonus for med-  
4           ical officers of the armed forces.

5           “(3) 301e. Multiyear retention bonus for dental  
6           officers of the armed forces.

7           “(4) 302d. Accession bonus for registered  
8           nurses.

9           “(5) 302h. Accession bonus for dental officers.

10          “(6) 302j. Accession bonus for pharmacy offi-  
11          cers.

12          “(7) 302k. Accession bonus for medical officers  
13          in critically short wartime specialties.

14          “(8) 302l. Accession bonus for dental specialist  
15          officers in critically short wartime specialties.

16          “(9) 308. Reenlistment bonus.

17          “(10) 308b. Reenlistment bonus for members of  
18          the Selected Reserve.

19          “(11) 308c. Bonus for affiliation or enlistment  
20          in the Selected Reserve.

21          “(12) 308g. Bonus for enlistment in elements  
22          of the Ready Reserve other than the Selected Re-  
23          serve.

1           “(13) 308h. Bonus for reenlistment, or vol-  
2           untary extension of enlistment in elements of the  
3           Ready Reserve other than the Selected Reserve.

4           “(14) 308i. Prior service enlistment bonus.

5           “(15) 308j. Affiliation bonus for officers in the  
6           Selected Reserve.

7           “(16) 309. Enlistment bonus.

8           “(17) 312. Special pay for nuclear-qualified of-  
9           ficers extending period of active duty.

10          “(18) 312b. Nuclear career accession bonus.

11          “(19) 312c. Nuclear career annual incentive  
12          bonus.

13          “(20) 315. Engineering and scientific career  
14          continuation pay.

15          “(21) 316. Bonus for members with foreign  
16          language proficiency.

17          “(22) 317. Special pay for officers in critical  
18          acquisition positions extending period of active duty.

19          “(23) 318. Special pay for special warfare offi-  
20          cers extending period of active duty.

21          “(24) 319. Surface warfare officer continuation  
22          pay.

23          “(25) 321. Judge advocate continuation pay.

1           “(26) 322. 15-year career status bonus for  
2 members entering service on or after August 1,  
3 1986.

4           “(27) 323. Retention incentives for members  
5 qualified in critical military skills or assigned to high  
6 priority units.

7           “(28) 324. Accession bonus for new officers in  
8 critical skills.

9           “(29) 326. Incentive bonus for conversion to  
10 military occupational specialty to ease personnel  
11 shortage.

12           “(30) 327. Incentive bonus for transfer between  
13 armed forces.

14           “(31) 329. Incentive bonus for retired members  
15 and reserve component members volunteering for  
16 high-demand, low-density assignments.

17           “(32) 330. Accession bonus for officer can-  
18 didates.

19           “(c) TIME FOR PAYMENT.—A bonus required to be  
20 paid to a member under this section shall be paid to the  
21 member in a lump sum not later than 30 days after the  
22 date of the retirement or separation of the member, not-  
23 withstanding any terms to the contrary in the agreement  
24 under which the bonus was originally authorized.

1       “(d) COMBAT-RELATED INJURY DEFINED.—In this  
2 section, the term ‘combat-related injury’ means an in-  
3 jury—

4           “(1) for which the member was awarded the  
5 Purple Heart; or

6           “(2) that was incurred (as determined under  
7 criteria prescribed by the Secretary of Defense)—

8               “(A) as a direct result of armed conflict;

9               “(B) while engaged in hazardous service;

10              “(C) in the performance of duty under  
11 conditions simulating war; or

12              “(D) through an instrumentality of war.”.

13       (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections  
14 at the beginning of chapter 17 of such title is amended  
15 by inserting after the item relating to section 903 the fol-  
16 lowing new item:

“904. Continued payment of bonuses to members retired or separated due to  
combat-related injuries.”.

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