

118TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 5545

To amend title 38, United States Code, to make certain improvements to laws relating to the payment of certain benefits administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs that are affected by death, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

DECEMBER 17 (legislative day, DECEMBER 16), 2024

Mr. DAINES (for himself and Mr. KIM) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs

A BILL

To amend title 38, United States Code, to make certain improvements to laws relating to the payment of certain benefits administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs that are affected by death, 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. PAYMENT BY SECRETARY OF VETERANS AF-**
4 **FAIRS OF CERTAIN BENEFITS AFFECTED BY**
5 **DEATH.**

6 (a) EFFECTIVE DATE OF CERTAIN REDUCTIONS AND
7 DISCONTINUANCES OF COMPENSATION, DEPENDENCY
8 AND INDEMNITY COMPENSATION, AND PENSION UNDER

1 LAWS ADMINISTERED BY SECRETARY OF VETERANS AF-
2 FAIRS.—

3 (1) IN GENERAL.—Section 5112(b) of title 38,
4 United States Code, is amended—

5 (A) in paragraph (1), by inserting “(except
6 in the case of a pension under an existing rat-
7 ing or decision),” after “death of a payee”;

8 (B) by redesignating paragraphs (3)
9 through (10) as paragraphs (4) through (11),
10 respectively; and

11 (C) by inserting, after paragraph (2), the
12 following new paragraph (3):

13 “(3) by reason of death of a payee in the case
14 of a pension under an existing rating or decision,
15 shall be the last day of the month in which such
16 death occurs;”.

17 (2) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section
18 1832(b)(4) of such title is amended by striking
19 “paragraphs (1), (6), (9), and (10)” and inserting
20 “paragraphs (1), (7), (10), and (11)”.

21 (b) PAYMENT OF BENEFITS FOR MONTH OF
22 DEATH.—Section 5310(b) of title 38, United States Code,
23 is amended by inserting “, or in the case of a payment
24 for the month of the death of a payee under section
25 5112(b)(2) of this title,” before “an amount equal”.

1 (c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments to title 38,
2 United States Code, made by this section shall apply with
3 respect to a payment of a benefit affected by a death that
4 occurs on or after the date of the enactment of this Act.

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