

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 695

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

FEBRUARY 27, 2025

Received; read twice and referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs

AN ACT

To amend title 38, United States Code, to increase the rate of the special pension payable to Medal of Honor recipients, 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,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “Medal of Honor Act”.

3 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

4 Congress finds the following:

5 (1) The Medal of Honor is the highest and
6 most prestigious military decoration of the United
7 States.

8 (2) To earn the Medal of Honor “the deed of
9 the person . . . must be so outstanding that it clear-
10 ly distinguishes his gallantry beyond the call of duty
11 from lesser forms of bravery”.

12 (3) The actions of Medal of Honor recipients
13 inspire bravery, and the willingness to give all, in
14 those who serve in the Armed Forces and those who
15 will serve in the future.

16 (4) Those listed on the Medal of Honor Roll ex-
17 emplify the best traits of members of the Armed
18 Forces, a long and proud lineage of those who went
19 beyond the call of duty.

20 (5) Pursuant to section 1562 of title 38, United
21 States Code, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall
22 pay monthly to each living person whose name has
23 been entered on the Army, Navy, Air Force, and
24 Coast Guard Medal of Honor Roll a special pension.

25 (6) Recipients of the Medal of Honor have
26 earned a substantial and historic increase to such

1 special pension in recognition of their conspicuous
2 gallantry, unwavering commitment, and heroic ac-
3 tions above and beyond the call of duty.

4 **SEC. 3. INCREASE IN DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS**
5 **SPECIAL PENSION PAYABLE TO MEDAL OF**
6 **HONOR RECIPIENTS.**

7 Section 1562 of title 38, United States Code, is
8 amended—

9 (1) in subsection (a)(1)—

10 (A) by inserting “(A)” before “The Sec-
11 retary”;

12 (B) by striking “the rate of \$1,406.73”
13 and inserting “the rate described in subpara-
14 graph (B)”;

15 (C) by adding at the end the following new
16 subparagraph:

17 “(B) The rate described in this subparagraph is equal
18 to the amount of monthly compensation paid to a veteran
19 without dependents under subsection (m) of section 1114
20 of this title, increased to the next intermediate rate under
21 subsection (p) of such section.”; and

22 (2) in subsection (e)—

23 (A) by inserting “(1)” before “Effective”;

24 (B) by inserting “, subject to paragraph
25 (2),” before “shall”; and

1 (C) by adding at the end the following new
2 paragraph (2):

3 “(2) The Secretary shall not, under paragraph (1),
4 increase the amount of monthly special pension payable
5 under subsection (a) in a year if such amount was other-
6 wise increased during such year.”.

7 **SEC. 4. EXTENSION OF CERTAIN LIMITS ON PAYMENTS OF**
8 **PENSION.**

9 Section 5503(d)(7) of title 38, United States Code,
10 is amended by striking “November 30, 2031” and insert-
11 ing “January 31, 2033”.

Passed the House of Representatives February 26,
2025.

Attest: KEVIN F. MCCUMBER,
Clerk.