

117TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 8973

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.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 22, 2022

Mr. NEHLS (for himself and Mr. WALTZ) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs

A BILL

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,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

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

5 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

6 Congress finds the following:

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

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

5 (3) The actions of Medal of Honor recipients
6 inspire bravery, and the willingness to give all, in
7 those who serve in the Armed Forces and those who
8 will serve in the future.

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

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

18 (6) Recipients of the Medal of Honor have
19 earned a substantial and historic increase to such
20 special pension in recognition of their conspicuous
21 gallantry, unwavering commitment, and heroic ac-
22 tions above and beyond the call of duty.

1 **SEC. 3. INCREASE IN DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS**
2 **SPECIAL PENSION PAYABLE TO MEDAL OF**
3 **HONOR RECIPIENTS.**

4 (a) INCREASE IN SPECIAL PENSION PAYABLE TO
5 LIVING MEDAL OF HONOR RECIPIENTS.—Section
6 1562(a)(1) of title 38, United States Code, is amended
7 by striking “\$1,388.68” and inserting “\$8,333.33”.

8 (b) AMOUNT OF SPECIAL PENSION PAYABLE TO
9 SURVIVING SPOUSES.—Section 1562(a)(2)(A) of title 38,
10 United States Code, is amended—

11 (1) by striking “special pension under this sec-
12 tion” and inserting “monthly”; and

13 (2) by striking the period and adding at the end
14 the following: “a special pension under this section
15 at the rate of \$1,489.73, as adjusted from time to
16 time under subsection (e).”.

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