

117TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 6174

To address out-of-pocket inequities related to military service uniforms, and
for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

DECEMBER 8, 2021

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina introduced the following bill; which was
referred to the Committee on Armed Services

A BILL

To address out-of-pocket inequities related to military service
uniforms, 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 “Military Forces Assur-
5 ing that Treatment of Items by Gender are Uniform and
6 Equal across the Services Act of 2021” or the “Military
7 FATIGUES Act of 2021”.

8 **SEC. 2. MODIFICATIONS TO MILITARY SERVICE UNIFORM**
9 **REQUIREMENTS AND PROCEDURES.**

10 (a) ESTABLISHMENT OF CONSISTENT CRITERIA.—

1 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days
2 after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Sec-
3 retary of Defense, acting through the Under Sec-
4 retary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness and
5 in coordination with the Secretaries concerned with
6 respect to the Armed Forces under their jurisdiction,
7 shall establish consistent criteria for determining
8 which uniform or clothing items across the services
9 are considered uniquely military for purposes of cal-
10 culating the standard cash clothing replacement al-
11 lowances, in part to reduce differences in out-of-
12 pocket costs incurred by enlisted members of the
13 Armed Forces across the military services and by
14 gender within a military service.

15 (2) REVIEW.—The Under Secretary shall re-
16 view the criteria established under paragraph (1)
17 every 5 years thereafter and recommend adjust-
18 ments to enlisted clothing allowances if they are in-
19 sufficient to pay for uniquely military items.

20 (b) ADDITIONAL REVIEWS.—The Secretary of De-
21 fense, acting through the Under Secretary of Defense for
22 Personnel and Readiness and in coordination with the Sec-
23 retaries of the military departments, shall—

24 (1) periodically review all uniform clothing
25 plans of the military services to identify data and re-

1 requirements needed to facilitate cost discussions and
2 to recommend adjustments as appropriate;

3 (2) periodically review items in the military
4 services' calculations of the enlisted standard cash
5 clothing replacement allowances, at a minimum,
6 every 5 years and develop a standard by which to
7 identify significant cost differences that warrant
8 being addressed;

9 (3) periodically review all plans of the military
10 services for changing uniform items to determine if
11 the planned changes will result in significant out-of-
12 pocket cost differences among the services or among
13 genders; and

14 (4) periodically review initial officer clothing al-
15 lowances, at a minimum, every 10 years and identify
16 requirements needed to facilitate cost discussions
17 and adjustment recommendations as appropriate.

18 (c) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Con-
19 gress that the cost of like items between genders should
20 be the same for members of the Armed Forces.

21 (d) REPORT.—Not later than December 31, 2022,
22 the Department of Defense, in coordination with the Sec-
23 retaries of the military departments, shall submit to the
24 Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the
25 House of Representatives a report on the estimated pro-

1 duction and average retail prices of military clothing items
2 for members of each Armed Force, including both officer
3 and enlisted uniforms, and a comparison of costs for both
4 male and female military clothing items for members of
5 each of the respective services.

