117TH CONGRESS 2D SESSION

H. R. 6929

To increase the benefits guaranteed in connection with certain pension plans, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

March 3, 2022

Mr. Kildee (for himself, Mr. Ryan, Mr. Turner, Ms. Kaptur, Mr. Johnson of Ohio, Mrs. Dingell, Mr. Davidson, Ms. Moore of Wisconsin, and Mr. Morelle) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Education and Labor, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

A BILL

To increase the benefits guaranteed in connection with certain pension plans, 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 "Susan Muffley Act of
- 5 2022".
- 6 SEC. 2. GUARANTEED BENEFIT CALCULATION FOR CER-
- 7 TAIN PLANS.
- 8 (a) In General.—

	(1)	INCREASE	TO	FULL	VESTED	PLAN	BEN-
2	EFIT.—						

- (A) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of determining what benefits are guaranteed under section 4022 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (in this section referred to as "ERISA") with respect to an eligible participant or beneficiary under a covered plan specified in paragraph (4) in connection with the termination of such plan, the amount of monthly benefits shall be equal to the full vested plan benefit with respect to the participant.
- (B) No effect on previous determinated to change the allocation of assets and recoveries under sections 4044(a) and 4022(c) of ERISA as previously determined by the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation (in the section referred to as the "corporation") for the covered plans specified in paragraph (4), and the corporation's applicable rules, practices, and policies on benefits payable in terminated single-employer plans shall, except as otherwise provided in this section, continue to apply with respect to such covered plans.

1	(2) Recalculation of certain benefits.—
2	(A) IN GENERAL.—In any case in which
3	the amount of monthly benefits with respect to
4	an eligible participant or beneficiary described
5	in paragraph (1) was calculated prior to the
6	date of enactment of this Act, the corporation
7	shall recalculate such amount pursuant to para-
8	graph (1), and shall adjust any subsequent pay-
9	ments of such monthly benefits accordingly, as
10	soon as practicable after such date.
11	(B) Lump-sum payments of past-due
12	BENEFITS.—Not later than 180 days after the
13	date of enactment of this Act, the corporation,
14	in consultation with the Secretary of the Treas-
15	ury and the Secretary of Labor, shall make a
16	lump-sum payment to each eligible participant
17	or beneficiary whose guaranteed benefits are re-
18	calculated under subparagraph (A) in an
19	amount equal to—
20	(i) in the case of an eligible partici-
21	pant, the excess of—
22	(I) the total of the full vested
23	plan benefits of the participant for all
24	months for which such guaranteed

1	benefits were paid prior to such recal-
2	culation, over
3	(II) the sum of any applicable
4	payments made to the eligible partici-
5	pant; and
6	(ii) in the case of an eligible bene-
7	ficiary, the sum of—
8	(I) the amount that would be de-
9	termined under clause (i) with respect
10	to the participant of which the eligible
11	beneficiary is a beneficiary if such
12	participant were still in pay status
13	plus
14	(II) the excess of—
15	(aa) the total of the full
16	vested plan benefits of the eligi-
17	ble beneficiary for all months for
18	which such guaranteed benefits
19	were paid prior to such recalcula-
20	tion, over
21	(bb) the sum of any applica-
22	ble payments made to the eligible
23	beneficiary.
24	Notwithstanding the previous sentence, the cor-
25	poration shall increase each lump-sum payment

1	made under this subparagraph to account for
2	foregone interest in an amount determined by
3	the corporation designed to reflect a 6 percent
4	annual interest rate on each past-due amount
5	attributable to the underpayment of guaranteed
6	benefits for each month prior to such recalcula-
7	tion.
8	(C) ELIGIBLE PARTICIPANTS AND BENE-
9	FICIARIES.—
10	(i) In general.—For purposes of
11	this section, an eligible participant or bene-
12	ficiary is a participant or beneficiary
13	who—
14	(I) as of the date of the enact-
15	ment of this Act, is in pay status
16	under a covered plan or is eligible for
17	future payments under such plan;
18	(II) has received or will receive
19	applicable payments in connection
20	with such plan (within the meaning of
21	clause (ii)) that does not exceed the
22	full vested plan benefits of such par-
23	ticipant or beneficiary; and
24	(III) is not covered by the 1999
25	agreements between General Motors

1	and various unions providing a top-up
2	benefit to certain hourly employees
3	who were transferred from the Gen-
4	eral Motors Hourly-Rate Employees
5	Pension Plan to the Delphi Hourly-
6	Rate Employees Pension Plan.
7	(ii) Applicable payments.—For
8	purposes of this paragraph, applicable pay-
9	ments to a participant or beneficiary in
10	connection with a plan consist of the fol-
11	lowing:
12	(I) Payments under the plan
13	equal to the normal benefit guarantee
14	of the participant or beneficiary.
15	(II) Payments to the participant
16	or beneficiary made pursuant to sec-
17	tion 4022(c) or otherwise received
18	from the corporation in connection
19	with the termination of the plan.
20	(3) Definitions.—For purposes of this sub-
21	section—
22	(A) FULL VESTED PLAN BENEFIT.—The
23	term "full vested plan benefit" means the
24	amount of monthly benefits that would be guar-
25	anteed under section 4022 of ERISA as of the

1	date of plan termination with respect to an eli-
2	gible participant or beneficiary if such section
3	were applied without regard to the phase-in
4	limit in subsection (b)(1) of such Act and the
5	maximum guaranteed benefit limitation in sub-
6	section (b)(3) of such Act (including the ac-
7	crued-at-normal limitation).
8	(B) NORMAL BENEFIT GUARANTEE.—The
9	term "normal benefit guarantee" means the
10	amount of monthly benefits guaranteed under
11	such section with respect to an eligible partici-
12	pant or beneficiary without regard to this Act.
13	(4) COVERED PLANS.—The covered plans speci-
14	fied in this paragraph are the following:
15	(A) The Delphi Hourly-Rate Employees
16	Pension Plan.
17	(B) The Delphi Retirement Program for
18	Salaried Employees.
19	(C) The PHI Non-Bargaining Retirement
20	Plan.
21	(D) The ASEC Manufacturing Retirement
22	Program.
23	(E) The PHI Bargaining Retirement Plan.
24	(F) The Delphi Mechatronic Systems Re-
25	tirement Program.

- (5) Treatment of PBGC Determinations.— Any determination made by the corporation under this section concerning a recalculation of benefits or lump-sum payment of past-due benefits shall be sub-ject to administrative review by the corporation. Any new determination made by the corporation under this section shall be governed by the same adminis-trative review process as any other benefit deter-mination by the corporation.
- 10 (b) Trust Fund for Payment of Increased 11 Benefits.—
 - (1) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established in the Treasury of the United States a trust fund to be known as the "Delphi Full Vested Plan Benefit Trust Fund" (hereafter in this subsection referred to as the "Fund"), consisting of such amounts as may be appropriated or credited to the Fund as provided in this section.
 - (2) Funding.—There is appropriated from the general fund such amounts as are necessary for the costs of the payment of the portion of monthly benefits guaranteed to a participant or beneficiary pursuant to subsection (a) and for necessary administrative and operating expenses of the corporation relating to such payment. The Fund shall be credited

- with amounts from time to time as the Secretary of the Treasury, in conjunction with the Director of the corporation, determines appropriate, from the general fund of the Treasury.
- 5 (3) EXPENDITURES FROM FUND.—Amounts in 6 the Fund shall be available for the payment of the 7 portion of monthly benefits guaranteed to a partici-8 pant or beneficiary pursuant to subsection (a) and 9 for necessary administrative and operating expenses 10 of the corporation relating to such payment.
- 11 (c) REGULATIONS.—The corporation, in consultation 12 with the Secretary of the Treasury and the Secretary of 13 Labor, may issue such regulations as necessary to carry 14 out this section.
 - (d) Tax Treatment of Lump-Sum Payments.—
- 16 (1) In General.—Unless the taxpayer elects 17 (at such time and in such manner as the Secretary 18 may provide) to have this paragraph not apply with 19 respect to any lump-sum payment under subsection 20 (a)(2)(B), the amount of such payment shall be in-21 cluded in the taxpayer's gross income ratably over 22 the 3-taxable-year period beginning with the taxable 23 year in which such payment is received.
- 24 (2) Special rules related to death.—

15

1	(A) IN GENERAL.—If the taxpayer dies be-
2	fore the end of the 3-taxable-year period de-
3	scribed in paragraph (1), any amount to which
4	paragraph (1) applies which has not been in-
5	cluded in gross income for a taxable year end-
6	ing before the taxable year in which such death
7	occurs shall be included in gross income for
8	such taxable year.
9	(B) SPECIAL ELECTION FOR SURVIVING
10	SPOUSES OF ELIGIBLE PARTICIPANTS.—If—
11	(i) a taxpayer with respect to whom
12	paragraph (1) applies dies,
13	(ii) such taxpayer is an eligible partic-
14	ipant,
15	(iii) the surviving spouse of such eligi-
16	ble participant is entitled to a survivor
17	benefit from the corporation with respect
18	to such eligible participant, and
19	(iv) such surviving spouse elects (at
20	such time and in such manner as the Sec-
21	retary may provide) the application of this
22	subparagraph,
23	subparagraph (A) shall not apply and any
24	amount which would have (but for such tax-
25	payer's death) been included in the gross in-

come of such taxpayer under paragraph (1) for any taxable year beginning after the date of such death shall be included in the gross income of such surviving spouse for the taxable year of such surviving spouse ending with or within such taxable year of the taxpayer.

 \bigcirc