

114TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 4994

To amend title 38, United States Code, to exempt reimbursements of certain medical expenses and other payments related to accident, theft, loss, or casualty loss from determinations of annual income with respect to pensions for veterans and surviving spouses and children of veterans, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 19, 2016

Mr. HASTINGS (for himself, Ms. BORDALLO, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Mr. CONYERS, Mr. DESAULNIER, Mr. DEUTCH, Ms. FRANKEL of Florida, Mr. GRAYSON, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. GUTIÉRREZ, Mr. HIGGINS, Mr. HONDA, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Mr. JONES, Mr. LIPINSKI, Mr. LOWENTHAL, Mr. MCGOVERN, Ms. NORTON, Mrs. RADEWAGEN, Mr. RANGEL, Mr. ROONEY of Florida, Mr. RUSH, Mr. SABLAN, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, and Mr. SERRANO) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs

A BILL

To amend title 38, United States Code, to exempt reimbursements of certain medical expenses and other payments related to accident, theft, loss, or casualty loss from determinations of annual income with respect to pensions for veterans and surviving spouses and children of veterans, 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 “Veterans Pensions
3 Protection Act of 2016”.

4 **SEC. 2. EXCLUSION OF CERTAIN REIMBURSEMENTS OF**
5 **MEDICAL EXPENSES AND OTHER PAYMENTS**
6 **FROM DETERMINATION OF ANNUAL INCOME**
7 **WITH RESPECT TO PENSIONS FOR VETERANS**
8 **AND SURVIVING SPOUSES AND CHILDREN OF**
9 **VETERANS.**

10 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 1503(a) of title 38,
11 United States Code, is amended—

12 (1) by redesignating paragraphs (6) through
13 (12) as paragraphs (7) through (13), respectively;
14 and

15 (2) by inserting after paragraph (5) the fol-
16 lowing new paragraph (6):

17 “(6) payments regarding—

18 “(A) reimbursements of any kind (includ-
19 ing insurance settlement payments) for medical
20 expenses resulting from any accident, theft,
21 loss, or casualty loss (as defined by the Sec-
22 retary), but the amount excluded under this
23 clause shall not exceed the costs of medical care
24 provided to the victim of the accident, theft,
25 loss, or casualty loss; and

1 “(B) pain and suffering (including insur-
2 ance settlement payments and general damages
3 awarded by a court) related to an accident,
4 theft, loss, or casualty loss, but the amount ex-
5 cluded under this subparagraph shall not exceed
6 an amount determined by the Secretary on a
7 case-by-case basis;”.

8 (b) **EFFECTIVE DATE.**—The amendments made by
9 subsection (a) shall take effect on the date that is 180
10 days after the date of the enactment of this Act.

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