

Bill Fact Sheet - December 5, 2025 https://legilist.com

Bill page: https://legilist.com/bill/108/s/1239

S 1239

Former Prisoners of War Special Compensation Act of 2003

Congress: 108 (2003–2005, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Armed Forces and National Security

Introduced: Jun 11, 2003

Current Status: Committee on Veterans' Affairs. Hearings held.

Latest Action: Committee on Veterans' Affairs. Hearings held. (Jul 10, 2003) Official Text: https://www.congress.gov/bill/108th-congress/senate-bill/1239

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Craig, Larry E. [R-ID]

Party: Republican • State: ID • Chamber: Senate

Cosponsors

No cosponsors are listed for this bill.

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Veterans' Affairs Committee	Senate	Hearings By (full committee)	Jul 10, 2003

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Armed Forces and National Security

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
108 HR 850	Identical bill	Apr 10, 2003: Subcommittee Hearings Held.

Summary (as of Jun 11, 2003)

Former Prisoners of War Special Compensation Act of 2003 - Directs the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to pay special monthly compensation to each veteran who is a former prisoner of war and was detained or interned for at least 30 days. Provides various rates of payment, ranging from \$150 for those detained for between 30 and 120 days to a maximum of \$450 for those detained more than 540 days. States that such special compensation shall: (1) be in addition to any other authorized payments; and (2) shall not be considered income for purposes of eligibility under any Federal or federally assisted program.

Prohibits the payment of veterans' disability compensation for any alcohol- or drug-related disability even if the abuse is secondary to a service-connected disability.

Removes the requirement that former prisoners of war must have been detained or interned for at least 90 days in order to be eligible for veterans' outpatient dental care.

Actions Timeline

- Jul 10, 2003: Committee on Veterans' Affairs. Hearings held.
- Jun 11, 2003: Introduced in Senate
- Jun 11, 2003: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.