

S 1916

Military Survivor Benefits Improvement Act of 2003

Congress: 108 (2003–2005, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Armed Forces and National Security

Introduced: Nov 21, 2003

Current Status: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Armed Services.

Latest Action: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Armed Services. (Nov 21, 2003)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/108th-congress/senate-bill/1916>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Landrieu, Mary L. [D-LA]

Party: Democratic • **State:** LA • **Chamber:** Senate

Cosponsors (22 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Reid, Harry [D-NV]	D · NV		Jan 26, 2004
Sen. Kerry, John F. [D-MA]	D · MA		Feb 9, 2004
Sen. Murray, Patty [D-WA]	D · WA		Feb 23, 2004
Sen. Boxer, Barbara [D-CA]	D · CA		Feb 24, 2004
Sen. Clinton, Hillary Rodham [D-NY]	D · NY		Feb 24, 2004
Sen. Corzine, Jon S. [D-NJ]	D · NJ		Feb 24, 2004
Sen. Daschle, Thomas A. [D-SD]	D · SD		Feb 24, 2004
Sen. Johnson, Tim [D-SD]	D · SD		Feb 24, 2004
Sen. Dayton, Mark [D-MN]	D · MN		Mar 1, 2004
Sen. Inouye, Daniel K. [D-HI]	D · HI		Mar 9, 2004
Sen. Lautenberg, Frank R. [D-NJ]	D · NJ		Mar 9, 2004
Sen. Schumer, Charles E. [D-NY]	D · NY		Mar 9, 2004
Sen. Leahy, Patrick J. [D-VT]	D · VT		Mar 10, 2004
Sen. Hagel, Chuck [R-NE]	R · NE		Mar 11, 2004
Sen. Mikulski, Barbara A. [D-MD]	D · MD		Mar 11, 2004
Sen. Feinstein, Dianne [D-CA]	D · CA		Mar 30, 2004
Sen. Jeffords, James M. [I-VT]	I · VT		Mar 30, 2004
Sen. Lieberman, Joseph I. [D-CT]	D · CT		Apr 8, 2004
Sen. Sununu, John E. [R-NH]	R · NH		Apr 8, 2004
Sen. Stabenow, Debbie [D-MI]	D · MI		Apr 21, 2004
Sen. Bond, Christopher S. [R-MO]	R · MO		May 18, 2004
Sen. Pryor, Mark L. [D-AR]	D · AR		Jun 17, 2004

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Armed Services Committee	Senate	Referred To	Nov 21, 2003

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Armed Forces and National Security

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
108 HR 548	Related bill	Feb 28, 2003: Executive Comment Requested from DOD.
108 S 451	Related bill	Feb 26, 2003: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Armed Services.

Summary (as of Nov 21, 2003)

Military Survivor Benefits Improvement Act of 2003 - Adjusts the basic Survivor Benefit Plan (SBP) annuity amount for surviving spouses, age 62 and older, of former military personnel to: (1) 35 percent of the retired pay of the decedent (current law), for months before October 2005; (2) 40 percent for months beginning after September 2005 and before October 2008; (3) 45 percent for months beginning after September 2008 through September 2014; and (4) 55 percent for months after September 2014. Adjusts similarly percentage amounts with respect to survivors of reserve personnel and survivors of persons who die while on active duty. Provides a corresponding phased elimination of the SBP supplemental annuity authorized to be provided to such surviving spouses. Requires periodic recomputation of: (1) annuity amounts beginning in October 2005; and (2) retired pay reductions for supplemental survivor annuities. Provides a one-year open enrollment period for SBP participation, commencing October 1, 2005, for those currently not participating, those electing to increase current coverage, and those wishing to participate in the supplemental SBP.

Authorizes the Secretary of Defense to require appropriate premiums for SBP participation.

Actions Timeline

- **Nov 21, 2003:** Introduced in Senate
- **Nov 21, 2003:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Armed Services.