

Bill Fact Sheet - December 5, 2025 https://legilist.com Bill page: https://legilist.com/bill/109/s/77

S 77

HEROES Act of 2005

Congress: 109 (2005–2007, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Armed Forces and National Security

Introduced: Jan 24, 2005

Current Status: Message on Senate action sent to the House.

Latest Action: Message on Senate action sent to the House. (Jan 26, 2006) Official Text: https://www.congress.gov/bill/109th-congress/senate-bill/77

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Sessions, Jeff [R-AL]

Party: Republican • State: AL • Chamber: Senate

Cosponsors (26 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State Role	Date Joined
Sen. Lieberman, Joseph I. [D-CT]	D · CT	Jan 24, 2005
Sen. Burr, Richard [R-NC]	$R \cdot NC$	Jan 26, 2005
Sen. Clinton, Hillary Rodham [D-NY]	D · NY	Jan 26, 2005
Sen. Corzine, Jon S. [D-NJ]	D · NJ	Jan 26, 2005
Sen. Dole, Elizabeth [R-NC]	$R \cdot NC$	Jan 26, 2005
Sen. Durbin, Richard J. [D-IL]	D·IL	Jan 26, 2005
Sen. Feinstein, Dianne [D-CA]	D · CA	Jan 26, 2005
Sen. Inhofe, James M. [R-OK]	$R \cdot OK$	Jan 26, 2005
Sen. Johnson, Tim [D-SD]	$D \cdot SD$	Jan 26, 2005
Sen. Lautenberg, Frank R. [D-NJ]	D · NJ	Jan 26, 2005
Sen. Martinez, Mel [R-FL]	$R \cdot FL$	Jan 26, 2005
Sen. Murkowski, Lisa [R-AK]	$R \cdot AK$	Jan 26, 2005
Sen. Nelson, Bill [D-FL]	$D \cdot FL$	Jan 26, 2005
Sen. Shelby, Richard C. [R-AL]	$R \cdot AL$	Jan 26, 2005
Sen. Snowe, Olympia J. [R-ME]	$R \cdot ME$	Jan 26, 2005
Sen. Vitter, David [R-LA]	R·LA	Jan 26, 2005
Sen. Collins, Susan M. [R-ME]	$R \cdot ME$	Feb 1, 2005
Sen. Dayton, Mark [D-MN]	D · MN	Feb 1, 2005
Sen. Allard, Wayne [R-CO]	$R \cdot CO$	Feb 2, 2005
Sen. Bayh, Evan [D-IN]	D · IN	Feb 2, 2005
Sen. Smith, Gordon H. [R-OR]	$R \cdot OR$	Feb 7, 2005
Sen. Carper, Thomas R. [D-DE]	D · DE	Feb 8, 2005
Sen. Kyl, Jon [R-AZ]	$R \cdot AZ$	Feb 8, 2005
Sen. Brownback, Sam [R-KS]	$R \cdot KS$	Feb 17, 2005
Sen. Hutchison, Kay Bailey [R-TX]	$R \cdot TX$	Apr 5, 2005
Sen. Thune, John [R-SD]	$R \cdot SD$	Apr 12, 2005

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Armed Services Committee	Senate	Referred To	Jan 24, 2005

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Armed Forces and National Security

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
109 HR 377	Identical bill	Apr 4, 2005: Referred to the Subcommittee on Disability Assistance and Memorial Affairs.

Honoring Every Requirement of Exemplary Service Act of 2005 or HEROES Act of 2005 - Increases from \$12,000 to \$100,000 the death gratuity payable to the survivors of members of the Armed Forces who die: (1) as a direct result of armed conflict; (2) while engaged in hazardous service; (3) in the performance of duty under conditions simulating war; (4) through an instrumentality of war; or (5) in an operation or area designated as a combat operation or a combat zone.

Requires the Secretary of the military department concerned to pay an additional death gratuity of \$238,000 for a member of the Armed Forces who died before the date of enactment of this Act as a direct result of one or more wounds, injuries, or illnesses that were: (1) incurred in the theater of operations of Operation Enduring Freedom or Operation Iraqi Freedom; or (2) as a direct result of armed conflict, while engaged in hazardous service, in the performance of duty under conditions simulating war, or through an instrumentality of war on or after October 7, 2001.

Increases the maximum amount of life insurance coverage for a member of the armed forces under servicemembers' group life insurance. Provides for \$150,000 additional life insurance with no deductible due from the member for combat-related deaths. Requires spousal approval for a member to elect not to have life insurance coverage or have less than the maximum amount allowable.

Actions Timeline

- Jan 26, 2006: Message on Senate action sent to the House.
- Jan 26, 2005: Sponsor introductory remarks on measure. (CR S550-551)
- Jan 24, 2005: Introduced in Senate
- Jan 24, 2005: Sponsor introductory remarks on measure. (CR S253)
- Jan 24, 2005: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Armed Services.