HR 3123

Ernest Peltz Accrued Veterans Benefits Act

Congress: 119 (2025–2027, Current)
Chamber: House
Policy Area: Armed Forces and National Security
Introduced: Apr 30, 2025
Current Status: Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.
Latest Action: Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs. (Feb 3, 2026)
Official Text: https://www.congress.gov/bill/119th-congress/house-bill/3123

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Stefanik, Elise M. [R-NY-21]
Party: Republican • **State:** NY • **Chamber:** House

Cosponsors (2 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Khanna, Ro [D-CA-17]	D · CA		Apr 30, 2025
Rep. Lee, Susie [D-NV-3]	D · NV		Sep 30, 2025

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Veterans' Affairs Committee	House	Hearings By (subcommittee)	Jun 24, 2025
Veterans' Affairs Committee	Senate	Referred To	Feb 3, 2026

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Armed Forces and National Security

Related Bills

No related bills are listed.

Summary (as of Apr 30, 2025)

Ernest Peltz Accrued Veterans Benefits Act

This bill establishes procedures for the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) to issue a pension that was due but unpaid at the time of a veteran’s death. Specifically, if the VA issues a decision awarding entitlement to a pension to a veteran prior to the veteran’s death but issues the payment after the veteran dies, the pension must be paid to the first available recipient on the following list: (1) the veteran’s living spouse; (2) the veteran’s living children; (3) the veteran’s living dependent parents; or (4) the estate of the veteran, unless the estate will escheat (i.e., transfer to the state). To be eligible for such pension payments, a claimant of accrued benefits must file an application within one year after the veteran's death.

If no application for accrued benefits is filed within one year following the death of the veteran, the pension must be paid to the veteran’s estate unless the estate will escheat.

Actions Timeline

- **Feb 3, 2026:** Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.
- **Feb 2, 2026:** Mr. Bost moved to suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended.
- **Feb 2, 2026:** Considered under suspension of the rules. (consideration: CR H1930-1932)
- **Feb 2, 2026:** DEBATE - The House proceeded with forty minutes of debate on H.R. 3123.
- **Feb 2, 2026:** At the conclusion of debate, the Yeas and Nays were demanded and ordered. Pursuant to the provisions of clause 8, rule XX, the Chair announced that further proceedings on the motion would be postponed.
- **Feb 2, 2026:** Considered as unfinished business. (consideration: CR H1937-1938)
- **Feb 2, 2026:** Passed/agreed to in House: On motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended Agreed to by the Yeas and Nays: (2/3 required): 405 - 1 (Roll no. 50). (text: CR H1930-1931)
- **Feb 2, 2026:** On motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended Agreed to by the Yeas and Nays: (2/3 required): 405 - 1 (Roll no. 50). (text: CR H1930-1931)
- **Feb 2, 2026:** Motion to reconsider laid on the table Agreed to without objection.
- **Oct 8, 2025:** Reported (Amended) by the Committee on Veterans' Affairs. H. Rept. 119-339.
- **Oct 8, 2025:** Placed on the Union Calendar, Calendar No. 291.
- **Jul 23, 2025:** Subcommittee on Disability Assistance and Memorial Affairs Discharged
- **Jul 23, 2025:** Committee Consideration and Mark-up Session Held
- **Jul 23, 2025:** Ordered to be Reported (Amended) by Voice Vote.
- **Jun 24, 2025:** Subcommittee Hearings Held
- **May 15, 2025:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Disability Assistance and Memorial Affairs.
- **Apr 30, 2025:** Introduced in House
- **Apr 30, 2025:** Referred to the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

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