

## 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.*

### **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

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- **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)
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- **Jul 23, 2025:** Committee Consideration and Mark-up Session Held
- **Jul 23, 2025:** Ordered to be Reported (Amended) by Voice Vote.
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