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(Original Signature of Member)

119TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. _____

To increase the death gratuity payable upon the death of a member of the Armed Forces and to provide for annual cost-of-living adjustments to such death gratuity, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. VAN EPPS introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on _____

A BILL

To increase the death gratuity payable upon the death of a member of the Armed Forces and to provide for annual cost-of-living adjustments to such death gratuity, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Honoring Our Nation’s
5 Obligation to Remember Gold Star Families Act” or the
6 “HONOR Gold Star Families Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. INCREASE IN DEATH GRATUITY.**

2 (a) INCREASE.—Section 1478(a) of title 10, United
3 States Code, is amended by striking “\$100,000” and in-
4 serting “\$200,000”.

5 (b) APPLICABILITY.—The amendment made by sub-
6 section (a) shall apply with respect to deaths occurring
7 on or after January 1, 2026.

8 **SEC. 3. COST-OF-LIVING ADJUSTMENT OF DEATH GRA-
9 TUITY.**

10 (a) ADJUSTMENT.—Section 1478 of title 10, United
11 States Code, as amended by section 2 of this Act, is
12 amended by inserting after subsection (b) the following
13 new subsection:

14 “(c) ANNUAL ADJUSTMENT TO DEATH GRATUITY.—
15 (1) On January 1 of each year, the amount of the death
16 gratuity payable under subsection (a) shall be increased
17 by the percentage (if any) by which the Consumer Price
18 Index for All Urban Consumers, published by the Bureau
19 of Labor Statistics, during the preceding calendar year ex-
20 ceeds such Consumer Price Index for the calendar year
21 before such preceding calendar year, rounded to the near-
22 est \$100.

23 “(2) The Secretary of Defense shall annually publish
24 the amount of the death gratuity payable under subsection
25 (a), as adjusted by paragraph (1), in the Federal Reg-
26 ister.”.

1 (b) APPLICABILITY.—The amendment made by sub-
2 section (a) shall apply beginning on January 1, 2027.