

AMENDMENT TO H.R. 1538
OFFERED BY MR. ABERCROMBIE OF HAWAII

At the appropriate place in the bill, insert the following new section:

1 **SEC. ____.** **STUDY AND REPORT ON SUPPORT SERVICES FOR**
2 **FAMILIES OF RECOVERING**
3 **SERVICEMEMBERS.**

4 (a) **STUDY REQUIRED.**—The Secretary of Defense
5 shall conduct a study of the provision of support services
6 for families of recovering servicemembers.

7 (b) **MATTERS COVERED.**—The study under sub-
8 section (a) shall include the following:

9 (1) A determination of the types of support
10 services that are currently provided by the Depart-
11 ment of Defense to family members described in
12 subsection (c), and the cost of providing such serv-
13 ices.

14 (2) A determination of additional types of sup-
15 port services that would be feasible for the Depart-
16 ment to provide to such family members, and the
17 costs of providing such services, including the fol-
18 lowing types of services:

1 (A) The provision of medical care at mili-
2 tary medical treatment facilities.

3 (B) The provision of job placement services
4 offered by the Department of Defense to any
5 family member caring for a recovering
6 servicemember for more than 45 days during a
7 one-year period.

8 (C) The provision of meals without charge
9 at military medical treatment facilities.

10 (3) A survey of military medical treatment fa-
11 cilities to estimate the number of family members to
12 whom the support services would be provided.

13 (4) A determination of any discrimination in
14 employment that such family members experience,
15 including denial of retention in employment, pro-
16 motion, or any benefit of employment by an em-
17 ployer on the basis of the person's absence from em-
18 ployment as described in subsection (c), and a deter-
19 mination, in consultation with the Secretary of
20 Labor, of the options available for such family mem-
21 bers.

22 (e) COVERED FAMILY MEMBERS.—A family member
23 described in this subsection is a family member of a recov-
24 ering servicemember who is—

1 (1) on invitational orders while caring for the
2 recovering servicemember;

3 (2) a non-medical attendee caring for the recov-
4 ering servicemember; or

5 (3) receiving per diem payments from the De-
6 partment of Defense while caring for the recovering
7 servicemember.

8 (d) REPORT.—Not later than 180 days after the date
9 of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Defense
10 shall submit to the Committees on Armed Services of the
11 Senate and the House of Representatives a report on the
12 results of the study, with such findings and recommenda-
13 tions as the Secretary considers appropriate.