

111TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 1222

To provide benefits under the Post-Deployment/Mobilization Respite Absence program for certain periods before the implementation of the program.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 26, 2009

Mr. BRALEY of Iowa (for himself, Mr. KLINE of Minnesota, Mr. BOSWELL, Mr. LOEBSACK, Mr. LATHAM, Mr. KING of Iowa, Mr. OBERSTAR, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Mr. WALZ, Mr. FORTENBERRY, and Mr. PAULSEN) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Armed Services

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## A BILL

To provide benefits under the Post-Deployment/Mobilization Respite Absence program for certain periods before the implementation of the program.

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 “Guaranteed Benefits  
5       for Our Troops Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. BENEFITS UNDER POST-DEPLOYMENT/MOBILIZA-**  
2 **TION RESPITE ABSENCE PROGRAM FOR CER-**  
3 **TAIN PERIODS BEFORE IMPLEMENTATION OF**  
4 **PROGRAM.**

5 (a) IN GENERAL.—Under regulations prescribed by  
6 the Secretary of Defense, the Secretary concerned shall  
7 provide any member or former member of the Armed  
8 Forces with the benefits specified in subsection (b) if the  
9 member or former member would, on any day during the  
10 period beginning on January 19, 2007, and ending on the  
11 date of the implementation of the Post-Deployment/Mobi-  
12 lization Respite Absence (PDMRA) program by the Sec-  
13 retary concerned, have qualified for a day of administra-  
14 tive absence under the Post-Deployment/Mobilization Res-  
15 pite Absence program had the program been in effect dur-  
16 ing such period.

17 (b) BENEFITS.—The benefits specified in this sub-  
18 section are the following:

19 (1) In the case of an individual who is a former  
20 member of the Armed Forces at the time of the pro-  
21 vision of benefits under this section, payment of an  
22 amount not to exceed \$200 for each day the indi-  
23 vidual would have qualified for a day of administra-  
24 tive absence as described in subsection (a) during  
25 the period specified in that subsection.

1           (2) In the case of an individual who is a mem-  
2           ber of the Armed Forces at the time of the provision  
3           of benefits under this section, either one day of ad-  
4           ministrative absence or payment of an amount not  
5           to exceed \$200, as selected by the Secretary con-  
6           cerned, for each day the individual would have quali-  
7           fied for a day of administrative absence as described  
8           in subsection (a) during the period specified in that  
9           subsection.

10           (c) EXCLUSION OF CERTAIN FORMER MEMBERS.—

11           A former member of the Armed Forces is not eligible  
12           under this section for the benefits specified in subsection  
13           (b)(1) if the former member was discharged or released  
14           from the Armed Forces under other than honorable condi-  
15           tions.

16           (d) MAXIMUM NUMBER OF DAYS OF BENEFITS.—

17           Not more than 40 days of benefits may be provided to  
18           a member or former member of the Armed Forces under  
19           this section.

20           (e) FORM OF PAYMENT.—The paid benefits

21           providable under subsection (b) may be paid in a lump  
22           sum or installments, at the election of the Secretary con-  
23           cerned.

24           (f) CONSTRUCTION WITH OTHER PAY AND LEAVE.—

25           The benefits provided a member or former member of the

1 Armed Forces under this section are in addition to any  
2 other pay, absence, or leave provided by law.

3 (g) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

4 (1) The term “Post-Deployment/Mobilization  
5 Respite Absence program” means the program of a  
6 military department to provide days of administra-  
7 tive absence not chargeable against available leave to  
8 certain deployed or mobilized members of the Armed  
9 Forces in order to assist such members in reinte-  
10 grating into civilian life after deployment or mobili-  
11 zation.

12 (2) The term “Secretary concerned” has the  
13 meaning given that term in section 101(5) of title  
14 37, United States Code.

15 (h) TERMINATION.—

16 (1) IN GENERAL.—The authority to provide  
17 benefits under this section shall expire on the date  
18 that is one year after the date of the enactment of  
19 this Act.

20 (2) CONSTRUCTION.—Expiration under this  
21 subsection of the authority to provide benefits under  
22 this section shall not affect the utilization of any day  
23 of administrative absence provided a member of the  
24 Armed Forces under subsection (b)(2), or the pay-  
25 ment of any payment authorized a member or

1 former member of the Armed Forces under sub-  
2 section (b), before the expiration of the authority in  
3 this section.

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