

111TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 917

To increase the health benefits of dependents of members of the Armed Forces who die because of a combat-related injury.

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IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 9, 2009

Mr. GUTHRIE introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Armed Services

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## A BILL

To increase the health benefits of dependents of members of the Armed Forces who die because of a combat-related injury.

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. INCREASE IN THE HEALTH BENEFITS OF DE-**  
4 **PENDENTS OF MEMBERS OF THE ARMED**  
5 **FORCES WHO DIE BECAUSE OF A COMBAT-**  
6 **RELATED INJURY.**

7 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 1079(g) of title 10,  
8 United States Code, is amended—

1 (1) in paragraph (2), by striking “In addition”  
2 and inserting the following: “Except as provided by  
3 paragraph (4), and in addition”;

4 (2) by redesignating paragraphs (4) and (5) as  
5 (5) and (6), respectively;

6 (3) by inserting after paragraph (3) the fol-  
7 lowing new paragraph:

8 “(4)(A) When a member dies because of a com-  
9 bat-related injury incurred while on active duty for  
10 a period of more than 30 days, the member’s de-  
11 pendents who are receiving benefits under a plan  
12 covered by subsection (a) shall continue to be eligible  
13 for benefits under TRICARE Prime.

14 “(B) For the purposes of this paragraph, the  
15 term ‘combat-related injury’ means an injury caused  
16 by hostile fire, explosion of a hostile mine, or any  
17 other hostile action.”; and

18 (4) in paragraph (5), as redesignated by para-  
19 graph (2) of this subsection, by striking “under  
20 paragraph (2)” and inserting “under paragraph (2)  
21 or (4)”.

22 (b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by  
23 this Act shall apply with respect to a member dying on  
24 or after September 11, 2001.

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