

**AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE**  
**TO H.R. 3123**  
**OFFERED BY MR. BOST OF ILLINOIS**

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

**1 SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2       This Act may be cited as the “Ernest Peltz Accrued  
3 Veterans Benefits Act”.

**4 SEC. 2. PAYMENT BY SECRETARY OF VETERANS AFFAIRS**  
**5 OF PENSION AFTER DEATH OF A VETERAN IN**  
**6 CERTAIN CIRCUMSTANCES.**

7       (a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 51 of title 38, United  
8 States Code, is amended by inserting, after section 5121A,  
9 the following new section:

**10 “§ 5121B. Payment of pension after death of a veteran**  
**11 in certain circumstances**

12       “(a) IN GENERAL.—Subject to subsection (b), if the  
13 Secretary issues a decision awarding entitlement to a pen-  
14 sion to a veteran before the death of such veteran, and  
15 the Secretary issues payment of such pension after the  
16 veteran dies, such pension that was due and unpaid at  
17 the time of the veteran’s death shall be paid to the first  
18 living person or entity listed below:

1 “(1) The veteran’s spouse.

2 “(2) The veteran’s children (in equal shares).

3 “(3) The veteran’s dependent parents (in equal  
4 shares).

5 “(4) The estate of the deceased veteran unless  
6 the estate will escheat.

7 “(b) LIMITATION.—In a case described in subsection  
8 (a), if no application is filed under section 5121 of this  
9 title during the one-year period following the death of the  
10 veteran, the pension described in such subsection shall be  
11 paid to the estate of the deceased veteran unless the estate  
12 will escheat.”.

13 (b) TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

14 (1) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section  
15 5121(a) of such title is amended, in the matter pre-  
16 ceding paragraph (1), by inserting “section 5121B  
17 of this title, or” before “sections 3329 and 3330”.

18 (2) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sec-  
19 tions at the beginning of such chapter is amended  
20 by inserting, after the item relating to section  
21 5121A, the following new item:

“5121B. Payment of pension after death of a veteran in certain circumstances.”.

22 (c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by  
23 this section shall apply with respect to the death of a vet-  
24 eran that occurs on or after the date of the enactment  
25 of this Act.

1   **SEC. 3. EXTENSION OF CERTAIN LIMITS ON PAYMENTS OF**  
2                           **PENSION.**

3           Section 5503(d)(7) of title 38, United States Code,  
4   is amended by striking “November 30, 2031” and insert-  
5   ing “December 31, 2031”.

