

**AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE
TO H.R. 2818
OFFERED BY MRS. MILLER-MEEKS OF IOWA**

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

1 SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

2 This Act may be cited as the “Autonomy for Disabled
3 Veterans Act”.

**4 SEC. 2. AMENDMENTS TO AUTHORITY OF SECRETARY OF
5 VETERANS AFFAIRS TO FURNISH IMPROVE-
6 MENTS AND STRUCTURAL ALTERATIONS AS
7 PART OF HOME HEALTH SERVICES FOR DIS-
8 ABLED VETERANS.**

9 (a) INCREASE.—Paragraph (2) of subsection (a) of
10 section 1717 of title 38, United States Code, is amended—

11 (1) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A),
12 by inserting “in the case of a veteran” before the em
13 dash; and

14 (2) by striking subparagraphs (A) and (B) and
15 inserting the following:

16 “(A) who first applied for benefits under this
17 paragraph, for a non-service-connected condition, be-
18 fore the date of the enactment of the Autonomy for

1 Disabled Veterans Act, and whose condition the Sec-
2 retary determines is service-connected after such
3 date, \$6,800; or

4 “(B) other than a veteran described in subpara-
5 graph (A), who first applied for benefits under this
6 paragraph on or after the date of the enactment of
7 the Autonomy for Disabled Veterans Act, \$9,000.”.

8 (b) ADJUSTMENT FOR INFLATION; CAP ON BENE-
9 FITS.—Such subsection is further amended—

10 (1) by redesignating paragraph (3) as para-
11 graph (5); and

12 (2) by inserting, after paragraph (2), the fol-
13 lowing new paragraphs (3) and (4):

14 “(3) On the first day of each fiscal year, the dollar
15 amounts in effect under paragraph (2) shall—

16 “(A) increase by a percentage equal to the per-
17 centage by which the residential home cost of con-
18 struction index established under section 2102(e)(3)
19 of this title increased during the previous fiscal year;
20 or

21 “(B) if such index did not increase during such
22 previous fiscal year, remain the same.

23 “(4) The Secretary may not furnish more than three
24 improvements or structural alterations under paragraph
25 (2) to a veteran.”.

1 (c) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—A veteran who, before
2 the date of the enactment of this Act, exhausted the eligi-
3 bility of such veteran for benefits under such section, shall
4 not be entitled to additional benefits under such section
5 by reason of the amendments made by this Act.

