

**AMENDMENT TO H.R. 5620, AS REPORTED
OFFERED BY MS. ESTY OF CONNECTICUT**

Page 54, add after line 2 the following:

1 **SEC. 11. EXPANSION OF ELIGIBILITY FOR PARTICIPATION**
2 **IN FAMILY CAREGIVER PROGRAM OF DE-**
3 **PARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS.**

4 (a) **EXPANSION OF ELIGIBILITY.**—Subsection
5 (a)(2)(B) of section 1720G of title 38, United States
6 Code, is amended by inserting before the semicolon the
7 following: “, or, in accordance with paragraph (11), has
8 such an injury or illness that was so incurred or aggra-
9 vated before such date”.

10 (b) **CLARIFICATION OF ELIGIBILITY FOR ILLNESS.**—
11 Such subsection is further amended by inserting “or ill-
12 ness” after “serious injury”.

13 (c) **EXPANSION OF NEEDED SERVICES IN ELIGI-**
14 **BILITY CRITERIA.**—Subsection (a)(2)(C) of such section
15 is amended—

- 16 (1) in clause (ii), by striking “; or” and insert-
17 ing a semicolon;
- 18 (2) by redesignating clause (iii) as clause (iv);
- 19 and

1 (3) by inserting after clause (ii) the following
2 new clause (iii):

3 “(iii) a need for regular or extensive in-
4 struction or supervision in completing two or
5 more instrumental activities of daily living; or”.

6 (d) ELIGIBILITY FOR ASSISTANCE.—Subsection (a)
7 of such section is amended by adding at the end the fol-
8 lowing new paragraph:

9 “(11) Notwithstanding any other provision of this
10 subsection, a family caregiver of an eligible veteran who
11 is eligible under paragraph (2) solely because of a serious
12 injury or illness (including traumatic brain injury, psycho-
13 logical trauma, or other mental disorder) incurred or ag-
14 gravated in the line of duty in the active military, naval,
15 or air service before September 11, 2001, is eligible for
16 assistance under this subsection as follows:

17 “(A) Not earlier than October 1, 2017, if the
18 family caregiver would merit a monthly personal
19 caregiver stipend under paragraph (3)(A)(ii)(V) in
20 an amount that is in the highest tier specified in the
21 schedule established by the Secretary under para-
22 graph (3)(C)(i).

23 “(B) Not earlier than October 1, 2019, if the
24 family caregiver would merit such a stipend in an

1 amount that is in the middle tier specified in such
2 schedule.

3 “(C) Not earlier than October 1, 2021, if the
4 family caregiver would merit such a stipend in an
5 amount that is in the lowest tier specified in such
6 schedule.”.

