



Gold Star Wives of America, Inc.

200 N. Glebe Road, Room 425, Arlington, Virginia 22203

REPEAL THE SURVIVOR BENEFIT PLAN/DEPENDENCY AND INDEMNITY COMPENSATION (SBP/DIC) OFFSET

Objective: To repeal the law that requires a \$1.00 reduction in a DoD Survivor Benefit Program (SBP) for each \$1.00 received from the VA's Dependency and Indemnity Compensation (DIC) program. SBP is a premium based voluntarily selected benefit of retirement.

New Bills: 114th Congress

H.R. 1594 Rep Joe Wilson, SC
79 Co-sponsors (4/28/2015)

S. 979 Sen. Bill Nelson, FL and
Sen. Susan Collins, ME

S. Con.Res. 11 Budget FY16
Sen. Michael Enzi, WY

FY14 Average SBP \$1,099 mo.

Cost FY14

Military Retirement Trust Fund
Outgoing \$56.6 Billion to military
retirement and survivor payments
\$3.85 Billion to 294,000 Surviving
Spouses

CBO score:

\$500 Million (FY15) owed to 62,094
offset Widows (less than 1% of
\$55 Billion outgo)

Original Survivor Benefit Bill

HR 10670, signed by President
Richard Nixon, Sept 21, 1972, House
Report 92-481 passed as a free
standing bill

For more information,
contact:

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703-351-6246

www.goldstarwives.org

Military Compensation website

<http://militarypay.defense.gov/survivor/sbp/index.html>

VA Compensation

<http://www.vba.va.gov/bln/21/Rates/comp0>

Surviving Spouses Deserve Equal Beneficiary Status.

No DIC offset for other SBP beneficiaries, such as:

- Remarried surviving spouses over age 57 receive both SBP and DIC payments (2003)
- Surviving children
- Former spouses receive SBP and current spouses receive DIC based on one service member's benefits
- Surviving spouses may receive SBP from first marriage and DIC from second marriage
- Surviving spouses of non-service connected death receive full SBP up to 55% (SBP/62 offset repealed in 2003)
- 37,685 surviving spouses receive NO SBP, yet pay TRICARE premiums, CHAMPVA has no premiums
- Federal Civil Service Survivor Annuitants
- Retirees pay SBP premium of 61/2% of retired pay and premium refund is proportionate to SBP paid

Favorable Recommendations Eliminate Offset to SBP/DIC:

- The Veterans Disability Benefits Commission (2007)
- Commission on Care for America's Returning Wounded Warriors (2007)
- 11th Quadrennial Review of Military Compensation (2012)
- Military Compensation and Retirement Modernization Commission (2015)

Philosophical Basis of DoD's original Survivor Benefit Bill:

H. R. 10670 (1972) -

To establish a survivor benefit program to provide income replacement for survivors with reasonable cost sharing by the retiree; to supplement social security; and to parallel the Civil Service Retirement System as closely as possible.

SBP IMPACT --- 05/1/2015

Rank	Status	SBP Monthly Premium	Monthly Retired Pay 2015 (with spouse)	Monthly VA Disability 2015 (with Spouse)	Monthly Total	Monthly SBP Annuity (55%)	Monthly VADIC Benefit	Monthly VA/DIC Offset	Gross Monthly Income	Percentage of Pre death mil/va Income
E-7-20 YRS		\$143. mo.								
	100% Disabled Veteran with Spouse		\$2,207	\$3069	\$5,276	----	----	----	\$5,276	
	Un-Remarried Surviving Spouse					\$1,214	\$1,254	(\$1,214)	\$1,254	23.76%
	Remarried Surviving Spouse =>57					\$1,214	\$1,254	0	\$2,468	46.77%
0-5 20 YRS		\$276.mo								
	100% Disabled Veteran with Spouse		\$4,253	\$3069	\$7,322	----	----	----	\$7,322	
	Un-Remarried Surviving Spouse					\$2,339	\$1,254	(\$1,254)	\$2,339	31.94%
	Remarried Surviving Spouse =>57					\$2,339	\$1,254	0	\$3,593	49.07%

Military Retired Pay/Survivor Benefit Offsets

Eliminated or Expanded by Congress

- 1999 Repealed Federal Civilian Pay offset to Military Retired pay for Regular Officers --- PL 106-65.
- 1999 Recognize incremental repeal of "Concurrent Receipt" Military retired pay and VA's disability compensation
- 2001-2003 Expanded full "concurrent receipt" to combat disabled servicemembers (20+yrs)
- 2001-2003 Ten yr. phase out of disability offset for 20yr.+ retirees with 100%-50% disability
- 2001 Survivor Benefit Annuity eligibility extended to spouses and children <20yrs service.
- 2003 Repealed SBP/DIC offset for surviving spouses who remarry after age 57
- 2004 4 year phase out to repeal Social Security offset to Survivor Benefit Annuity at age 62
- 2004 Immediate concurrent receipt for 100% disabled retirees (20+yrs)
- 2005 Accelerated "concurrent receipt" for "unemployable disabled retirees"
- 2006 "Benjamin Moore Act" provides SBP to AD surviving children 2001-2003 PL 109-364
- 2008 Surviving Spouse Indemnity Allowance \$50 + to 2013 PL 110-181
- 2009 Increased and extended SSIA to 2017 PL 111-31
- 2011 S. A. 1209 to S.1867 Elimination of SBP/DIC offset agreed to by voice vote, stripped in Conference.