



AMENDMENT NO. _____ Calendar No. _____

Purpose: To clarify the eligibility of members of the Coast Guard for combat-related special compensation.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES—114th Cong., 1st Sess.

S. 1611

To authorize appropriations for the Coast Guard for fiscal years 2016 and 2017, and for other purposes.

Referred to the Committee on _____ and ordered to be printed

Ordered to lie on the table and to be printed

AMENDMENT intended to be proposed by Ms. CANTWELL

Viz:

1 At the appropriate place in title II, insert the fol-
2 lowing:

3 **SEC. ____ . CLARIFICATION OF ELIGIBILITY OF MEMBERS**
4 **OF THE COAST GUARD FOR COMBAT-RE-**
5 **LATED SPECIAL COMPENSATION.**

6 (a) GUIDANCE ON CONSIDERATION OF ELIGI-
7 BILITY.—Not later than 90 days after the date of the en-
8 actment of this Act, the Secretary of Homeland Security
9 shall issue guidance and procedures for the boards and
10 personnel of the Coast Guard necessary to ensure that,
11 in determining whether the disability of a member of the
12 Coast Guard is a combat-related disability for purposes

1 of the eligibility of such member for combat-related special
2 compensation under section 1413a of title 10, United
3 States Code, such boards and personnel shall consider the
4 criteria prescribed by the Secretary of Defense pursuant
5 to subsection (e)(2) of such section in the same manner
6 as boards and personnel of the military departments con-
7 sider such criteria in determining whether the disability
8 of a member of the Armed Forces is a combat-related dis-
9 ability for purposes of the eligibility of such member for
10 combat-related special compensation under such section,
11 including a disability incurred—

12 (1) in the performance of combat-related eligi-
13 ble duties (as described under criteria prescribed by
14 the Secretary of Defense) while permanently or tem-
15 porarily assigned to a combatant command or other
16 unit of the Department of Defense or while exe-
17 cuting a mission or training in support of the De-
18 partment; or

19 (2) in the case of a member of the Coast Guard
20 when it was not operating as a service in the Navy—

21 (A) during activities described in sub-
22 section (e) of such section (as described under
23 criteria prescribed by the Secretary of Defense),
24 except that hazardous service otherwise referred
25 to in paragraph (2)(B) of that subsection shall

1 include aviation duty, diving duty, rescue swim-
2 mer or similar duty, and hazardous service on-
3 board a small vessel, such as duty as a
4 surfman;

5 (B) in the performance of duties for which
6 special or incentive pay was paid pursuant to
7 section 301, 301a, 304, 307, 334, or 351 of
8 title 37, United States Code;

9 (C) in the performance of a homeland se-
10 curity mission (as that term is defined in sec-
11 tion 888(a)(2) of the Homeland Security Act of
12 2002 (6 U.S.C. 468(a)(2));

13 (D) in the performance of a search and
14 rescue mission; or

15 (E) while engaged in a training exercise
16 for the performance of a mission or duty cov-
17 ered by this paragraph.

18 (b) **APPLICABILITY OF GUIDANCE.**—The guidance
19 issued pursuant to subsection (a) shall apply to disabilities
20 described in that subsection that are incurred on or after
21 the effective date provided in section 636(a)(2) of the Bob
22 Stump National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal
23 Year 2003 (Public Law 107–314; 116 Stat. 2574; 10
24 U.S.C. 1413a note).

1 (c) REAPPLICATION FOR COMPENSATION.—Any
2 member of the Coast Guard who was denied combat-re-
3 lated special compensation under section 1413a of title 10,
4 United States Code, during the period beginning on the
5 effective date specified in subsection (b) and ending on
6 the date of the issuance of the guidance required by sub-
7 section (a) may reapply for combat-related special com-
8 pensation under such section on the basis of such guidance
9 in accordance with such procedures as the Secretary of
10 Homeland Security shall specify.