

116TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2227

To amend the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act to authorize spouses of servicemembers who incur a catastrophic injury or illness or die while in military service to terminate leases of premises and motor vehicles, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 10, 2019

Mrs. BUSTOS (for herself, Mr. WENSTRUP, Ms. BROWNLEY of California, Miss GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN of Puerto Rico, Mr. CROW, Mr. GOLDEN, Mr. CISNEROS, and Mr. PAPPAS) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs

A BILL

To amend the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act to authorize spouses of servicemembers who incur a catastrophic injury or illness or die while in military service to terminate leases of premises and motor vehicles, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Gold Star Spouses and
5 Spouses of Injured Servicemembers Leasing Relief Expan-
6 sion Act of 2019”.

1 **SEC. 2. TERMINATION OF LEASES OF PREMISES AND**
2 **MOTOR VEHICLES OF SERVICEMEMBERS**
3 **WHO INCUR CATASTROPHIC INJURY OR ILL-**
4 **NESS OR DIE WHILE IN MILITARY SERVICE.**

5 (a) CATASTROPHIC INJURIES AND ILLNESSES.—Sub-
6 section (a) of section 305 of the Servicemembers Civil Re-
7 lief Act (50 U.S.C. 3955), as amended by section 301 of
8 the Veterans Benefits and Transition Act of 2018 (Public
9 Law 115–407), is further amended by adding at the end
10 the following new paragraph:

11 “(4) CATASTROPHIC INJURY OR ILLNESS OF
12 LESSEE.—The spouse of the lessee on a lease de-
13 scribed in subsection (b) may terminate the lease
14 during the one-year period beginning on the date on
15 which the lessee incurs a catastrophic injury or ill-
16 ness (as that term is defined in section 439(g) of
17 title 37, United States Code), if the lessee incurs the
18 catastrophic injury or illness during a period of mili-
19 tary service or while performing full-time National
20 Guard duty, active Guard and Reserve duty, or inac-
21 tive-duty training (as such terms are defined in sec-
22 tion 101(d) of title 10, United States Code).”.

23 (b) DEATHS.—Paragraph (3) of such subsection is
24 amended by striking “in subsection (b)(1)” and inserting
25 “in subsection (b)”.