

116TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 5471

To amend title 38, United States Code, to clarify the eligibility of children of Vietnam veterans born with spina bifida for benefits of the Department of Veterans Affairs.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

DECEMBER 18, 2019

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs

A BILL

To amend title 38, United States Code, to clarify the eligibility of children of Vietnam veterans born with spina bifida for benefits of the Department of Veterans Affairs.

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. CLARIFICATION OF ELIGIBILITY FOR SPINA**
4 **BIFIDA-RELATED BENEFITS OF THE DEPART-**
5 **MENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS.**

6 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 1832 of title 38, United
7 States Code, is amended—

1 (1) in subsection (a), by striking “The provi-
2 sions” and inserting “Except as provided by sub-
3 section (c), the provisions”; and

4 (2) by adding at the end the following new sub-
5 section:

6 “(c) EXCEPTION FOR BENEFITS FOR SPINA
7 BIFIDA.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the
8 effective date for an award of benefits under subchapter
9 I of this chapter for a child of a Vietnam veteran who
10 is suffering from spina bifida is the date on which the
11 child is born.”.

12 (b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by
13 subsection (a) shall be effective as if included in the enact-
14 ment of chapter 18 of such title 38.

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