

119TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. _____

To amend title 38, United States Code, to improve the Department of Veterans Affairs schedule for rating disabilities, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

Mr. BLUMENTHAL (for himself, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. KING, Mrs. MURRAY, and Mr. GALLEGO) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on _____

A BILL

To amend title 38, United States Code, to improve the Department of Veterans Affairs schedule for rating disabilities, 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 “Carlton H. Ingram
5 Veterans’ Benefits Protection Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. IMPROVEMENTS TO DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS**
2 **AFFAIRS SCHEDULE FOR RATING DISABIL-**
3 **ITIES.**

4 Section 1155 of title 38, United States Code, is
5 amended—

6 (1) in the first sentence, by striking “The Sec-
7 retary” and inserting the following:

8 “(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary”; and

9 (2) by adding at the end the following new sub-
10 section:

11 “(b) BENEFICIAL EFFECTS OF MEDICATION OR
12 TREATMENT.—(1) The schedule of ratings adopted and
13 applied under subsection (a) shall be constructed to dis-
14 count the beneficial effects of medication or treatment,
15 when evidence can be used to establish a baseline without
16 those beneficial effects.

17 “(2) Paragraph (1) shall not be construed to preclude
18 a veteran from seeking compensation for additional dis-
19 abilities resulting from medication or treatment for an un-
20 derlying injury suffered or disease contracted in line of
21 duty, or for aggravation of a preexisting injury suffered
22 or disease contract in line of duty, in the active military,
23 naval, air, or space service.”.