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By: **Senators Green, Astle, Brinkley, Britt, Brochin, Colburn, Conway, Currie, DeGrange, Dyson, Forehand, Garagiola, Giannetti, Gladden, Greenip, Hafer, Haines, Harris, Hollinger, Hooper, Hughes, Jimeno, Jones, Kasemeyer, Kelley, Kittleman, Klausmeier, McFadden, Mooney, Munson, Pipkin, Ruben, Schrader, Stoltzfus, Stone, and Teitelbaum**

Introduced and read first time: February 2, 2005

Assigned to: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION

1 A Senate Joint Resolution concerning

2 **Compensation to Families of Military Service Members Who Gave Their**  
3 **Lives in the Service of Our Country**

4 FOR the purpose of urging the President and the Congress of the United States to  
5 compensate the families of military service members who gave their lives in the  
6 service of our country; providing that a copy of this resolution be forwarded by  
7 the Department of Legislative Services to certain individuals; and generally  
8 relating to compensation to families of military service members who gave their  
9 lives in the service of our country.

10 WHEREAS, A recently released study by the Rand Corporation found that the  
11 civilian families who lost loved ones in the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001,  
12 received an average of \$3.1 million in compensation, mostly from the government,  
13 and that the families of firefighters and police officers killed as a result of the  
14 terrorist attacks received an average of \$4.2 million; and

15 WHEREAS, The current death gratuity for survivors of military service  
16 members killed in action is a lump sum payment of \$12,000, and the current monthly  
17 payment to surviving spouses who do not remarry is \$967 per month, plus \$241 per  
18 child, with a slightly higher amount received per child by surviving children of  
19 military service members who did not have a surviving spouse; and

20 WHEREAS, The sacrifices made by military service members who gave their  
21 lives in Iraq, Afghanistan, and in other locations in service of our country deserve to  
22 be honored by increasing the present compensation to the families of those military  
23 service members; and

24 WHEREAS, The Congress of the United States is considering legislation that  
25 would increase the compensation to the families of military service members who  
26 gave their lives in the line of duty; now, therefore, be it

27 **RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the**  
28 **General Assembly urges the President and the Congress of the United States to**

1 adequately compensate the families of military service members who gave their lives  
2 in the service of our country; and be it further

3       RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be forwarded by the Department of  
4 Legislative Services to the Honorable Robert L. Ehrlich, Jr., Governor of Maryland;  
5 the Honorable Thomas V. Mike Miller, Jr., President of the Senate of Maryland; and  
6 the Honorable Michael E. Busch, Speaker of the House of Delegates; and be it further

7       RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be forwarded by the Department of  
8 Legislative Services to President George W. Bush, The White House, Washington,  
9 D.C. 20500; and to the Maryland Congressional Delegation: Senators Paul S.  
10 Sarbanes and Barbara A. Mikulski, Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20510;  
11 and Representatives Wayne T. Gilchrest, C. A. Dutch Ruppersberger III, Benjamin L.  
12 Cardin, Albert R. Wynn, Steny Hamilton Hoyer, Roscoe G. Bartlett, Elijah E.  
13 Cummings, and Christopher Van Hollen, Jr., House Office Building, Washington,  
14 D.C. 20515.