

Justice for ALS Veterans Act (H.R. 1685 /S. 749)



What does it do?

- ★ The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) provides qualified survivors of servicemembers and veterans with Dependency and Indemnity Compensation (DIC).
- ★ Eligible surviving spouses can receive an additional \$351.02 per month in DIC, known as the “DIC kicker,” when a veteran who, at the time of death, was in receipt of or was entitled to receive compensation for a service-connected disability that was rated as totally disabling for a continuous period of at least eight years.
- ★ The **Justice for ALS Veterans Act of 2025 (H.R. 1685/S. 749)** would ensure the surviving spouses of veterans who died of service-connected ALS receive the DIC kicker.



Why is it needed?

- ★ Veterans are twice as likely to be diagnosed with ALS as civilians.
- ★ Most people with ALS die within 3-5 years of symptom onset.
- ★ **Surviving spouses of ALS veterans are rarely able to qualify for the additional survivor’s benefit** because of the quick progression of the disease.