

109TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# S. 1729

To extend the time during which persons affected by Hurricane Katrina may appeal certain decisions of the Board of Veterans' Appeals that are rendered during the period beginning June 1, 2005, and ending November 30, 2005.

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## IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

SEPTEMBER 20, 2005

Mr. AKAKA introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs

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## A BILL

To extend the time during which persons affected by Hurricane Katrina may appeal certain decisions of the Board of Veterans' Appeals that are rendered during the period beginning June 1, 2005, and ending November 30, 2005.

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. EXTENSION OF TIME FOR APPEAL OF CERTAIN**  
4                       **DECISIONS RENDERED BY BOARD OF VET-**  
5                       **ERANS' APPEALS.**

6       (a) APPEAL PERIOD.—Notwithstanding section  
7 7266(a) of title 38, United States Code, a Hurricane  
8 Katrina-affected person adversely affected by a final deci-

1 sion of the Board of Veterans' Appeals, which is rendered  
2 during the period beginning on June 1, 2005, and ending  
3 on November 30, 2005, may file a notice of appeal with  
4 the Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims at any time be-  
5 fore the expiration of 240 days after the date on which  
6 notice of such decision is mailed pursuant to section  
7 7104(e) of such title.

8 (b) DEFINITION.—In this Act, the term “Hurricane  
9 Katrina-affected person” means a person—

10 (1) who, as of August 28, 2005, resided in a  
11 county identified as being adversely affected by Hur-  
12 ricane Katrina in Florida, Louisiana, Mississippi, or  
13 Alabama by Federal Disaster Declaration notice  
14 1602, 1603, 1604, or 1605, respectively (as amend-  
15 ed), issued by the Federal Emergency Management  
16 Agency; or

17 (2) whose claim is under the jurisdiction of the  
18 Department of Veterans Affairs regional office in  
19 New Orleans, Louisiana or Jackson, Mississippi.

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