

115TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 3195

To amend title 38, United States Code, to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to make available for purchase memorial headstones and markers for certain deceased members of the reserve components.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 12, 2017

Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY of New York (for himself and Ms. STEFANIK) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs

A BILL

To amend title 38, United States Code, to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to make available for purchase memorial headstones and markers for certain deceased members of the reserve components.

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 “Honor Guardsmen and
5 Reservists Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. AVAILABILITY FOR PURCHASE OF DEPARTMENT OF**
2 **VETERANS AFFAIRS MEMORIAL HEADSTONES**
3 **AND MARKERS FOR MEMBERS OF RESERVE**
4 **COMPONENTS WHO PERFORMED CERTAIN**
5 **TRAINING.**

6 Section 2306 of title 38, United States Code, is
7 amended by adding at the end the following new sub-
8 section:

9 “(i)(1) The Secretary shall make available for pur-
10 chase a memorial headstone or marker for the marked or
11 unmarked grave of an individual described in paragraph
12 (2) or for the purpose of commemorating such an indi-
13 vidual whose remains are unavailable.

14 “(2) An individual described in this paragraph is an
15 individual who—

16 “(A) as a member of a National Guard or Re-
17 serve component performed inactive duty training or
18 active duty for training for at least six years but did
19 not serve on active duty; and

20 “(B) is not otherwise ineligible for a memorial
21 headstone or marker on account of the nature of the
22 individual’s separation from the Armed Forces or
23 other cause.

24 “(3) A headstone or marker for the grave of an indi-
25 vidual may be purchased under this subsection by—

26 “(A) the individual;

1 “(B) the surviving spouse, child, sibling, or par-
2 ent of the individual; or

3 “(C) an individual other than the next of kin,
4 as determined by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs.

5 “(4) In establishing the prices of the headstones and
6 markers made available for purchase under this section,
7 the Secretary shall ensure the prices are sufficient to cover
8 the costs associated with the production and delivery of
9 such headstones and markers.

10 “(5) No person may receive any benefit under the
11 laws administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs
12 solely by reason of this subsection.

13 “(6) This subsection does not authorize any new bur-
14 ial benefit for any person or create any new authority for
15 any individual to be buried in a national cemetery.

16 “(7) The Secretary shall coordinate with the Sec-
17 retary of Defense in establishing procedures to determine
18 whether an individual is an individual described in para-
19 graph (2).”.

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