

115TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 609

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## AN ACT

To designate the Department of Veterans Affairs health care center in Center Township, Butler County, Pennsylvania, as the “Abie Abraham VA Clinic”.

1       *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2       *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

1 **SECTION 1. FINDINGS.**

2 Congress finds the following:

3 (1) Abie Abraham of Lyndora, Pennsylvania,  
4 was stationed during World War II with the 18th  
5 Infantry in New York; 3 years with the 14th Infan-  
6 try in Panama; 15th Infantry, unassigned in China,  
7 while the U.S.S. Panay was sunk; 30th Infantry,  
8 Presidio, San Francisco; and the 31st Infantry, Ma-  
9 nila, Philippines, for 9 years.

10 (2) During World War II, Abraham fought, was  
11 captured, endured the Bataan Death March and as  
12 a prisoner of war for 3½ years, was beaten, stabbed,  
13 shot, survived malaria and starvation to be rescued  
14 by the 6th Rangers.

15 (3) Abraham stayed behind at the request of  
16 General Douglas MacArthur for 2½ more years  
17 disinterring the bodies of his fallen comrades from  
18 the Bataan Death March and the prison camps,  
19 helping to identify their bodies and see that they  
20 were properly laid to rest.

21 (4) After his promotion in 1945, Abraham  
22 came back to the United States where he served as  
23 a recruiter and then also served 2 years in Germany  
24 until his retirement with 30 years of service as a  
25 Master Sergeant.

1           (5) Abraham received numerous medals for his  
2           service, including the Purple Heart, and had several  
3           documentaries on the Discovery Channel and His-  
4           tory Channel.

5           (6) Abraham wrote the books “Ghost of Bataan  
6           Speaks” in 1971 and “Oh, God, Where Are You” in  
7           1977 to help the public better understand what our  
8           brave men endured at the hands of the Imperial  
9           Japanese Army as prisoners of war.

10          (7) Abraham was a life member of the Veterans  
11          of Foreign Wars, the American Legion, the Purple  
12          Heart Combat/Infantry Organization, the American  
13          Ex-POWs, the Disabled American Veterans, and the  
14          American Defenders of Bataan.

15          (8) Abraham was a volunteer at Veterans Af-  
16          fairs Butler Healthcare for 23 years from 1988 to  
17          2011 and had 36,851 service hours caring for our  
18          veterans.

19   **SEC. 2. ABIE ABRAHAM VA CLINIC.**

20          (a) DESIGNATION.—The Department of Veterans Af-  
21          fairs health care center in Center Township, Butler Coun-  
22          ty, Pennsylvania, shall after the date of the enactment of  
23          this Act be known and designated as the “Abie Abraham  
24          VA Clinic”.

1       (b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in any law, regula-  
2   tion, map, document, paper, or other record of the United  
3   States to the health care center referred to in subsection  
4   (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the “Abie Abra-  
5   ham VA Clinic”.

Passed the House of Representatives February 13,  
2017.

Attest:

*Clerk.*



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