

111TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 4269

To amend title 10, United States Code, to require the Secretary of Defense to use only human-based methods for training members of the Armed Forces in the treatment of severe combat and chemical and biological injuries.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

DECEMBER 10, 2009

Mr. FILNER (for himself, Mr. OBERSTAR, Mr. HINCHEY, Mr. ANDREWS, Mr. MORAN of Virginia, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. STARK, Mr. FARR, Ms. KAPTUR, Mr. DICKS, Mr. PETERS, Mr. GUTIERREZ, Mr. ROTHMAN of New Jersey, and Mr. GRIJALVA) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Armed Services

A BILL

To amend title 10, United States Code, to require the Secretary of Defense to use only human-based methods for training members of the Armed Forces in the treatment of severe combat and chemical and biological injuries.

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 “Battlefield Excellence
5 through Superior Training Practices Act” or “BEST
6 Practices Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

2 Congress finds the following:

3 (1) The Department of Defense has made im-
4 pressive strides in the development and use of meth-
5 ods of medical training and protection of members
6 of the Armed Forces, such as the use of tourniquets
7 and improvements in body armor, that have likely
8 led to decreased battlefield fatalities.

9 (2) The Department of Defense uses live mon-
10 keys to train medical personnel to treat casualties of
11 chemical and biological agent attacks and uses live
12 goats and pigs to teach physicians, medics, corps-
13 men, and other personnel methods to respond to se-
14 vere battlefield injuries.

15 (3) The civilian sector has almost exclusively
16 phased-in the use of superior human-based training
17 methods for numerous medical procedures currently
18 taught in military courses with the use of animals.

19 (4) Human-based methods have been developed
20 and validated for training responses to common bat-
21 tlefield injuries and chemical and biological agent at-
22 tacks.

23 (5) Management of hemorrhage, sucking chest
24 wounds, airway compromise, and many other combat
25 trauma injuries can be taught using numerous med-
26 ical simulators and partial task trainers.

1 “(2) may not use animals for such purpose.

2 “(c) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

3 “(1) The term ‘combat trauma injuries’ means
4 severe injuries likely to occur during combat, includ-
5 ing—

6 “(A) hemorrhage related to a wound to the
7 extremities;

8 “(B) sucking-chest wounds;

9 “(C) compromises to the airway; and

10 “(D) other injuries.

11 “(2) The term ‘human-based training methods’
12 means, with respect to training individuals in med-
13 ical treatment, the use of systems and devices that
14 do not use animals, including—

15 “(A) simulators;

16 “(B) partial task trainers;

17 “(C) moulage;

18 “(D) simulated combat environments;

19 “(E) human cadavers; and

20 “(F) rotations in civilian and military trau-
21 ma centers.

22 “(3) The term ‘partial task trainers’ means
23 training aids that allow individuals to learn or prac-
24 tice specific medical procedures.”.

1 (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections
2 at the beginning of chapter 101 of title 10, United States
3 Code, is amended by adding at the end the following new
4 item:

“2016. Requirement to use human-based methods for certain medical training.”.

