To designate the Mental Health Residential Rehabilitation Treatment Facility Expansion of the Department of Veterans Affairs Alvin C. York Medical Center in Murfreesboro, Tennessee, as the “Sergeant John Toombs Residential Rehabilitation Treatment Facility”.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 25, 2019

Mr. DesJarlais (for himself, Mr. David P. Roe of Tennessee, Mr. Fleischmann, Mr. Kustoff of Tennessee, Mr. Burchett, Mr. Green of Tennessee, and Mr. John W. Rose of Tennessee) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Veterans’ Affairs

A BILL

To designate the Mental Health Residential Rehabilitation Treatment Facility Expansion of the Department of Veterans Affairs Alvin C. York Medical Center in Murfreesboro, Tennessee, as the “Sergeant John Toombs Residential Rehabilitation Treatment Facility”.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. FINDINGS.

Congress finds the following:

(1) Sergeant John Toombs of Murfreesboro, Tennessee, served in the Tennessee Army National
Guard as a part of the highly distinguished 230th Signal Corps.

(2) His six years in the National Guard included a deployment to Afghanistan, where Sergeant Toombs proudly served as a guard and escort for visiting dignitaries and reporters traveling into highly dangerous, war-ravaged areas in Afghanistan.

(3) As a result of his service in Afghanistan, Sergeant Toombs developed symptoms of Posttraumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD), a disability he continued to suffer from after leaving the National Guard in 2014.

(4) After two years of battling PTSD and failing to receive the necessary treatment, Sergeant Toombs tragically took his own life in November of 2016.

(5) However, the life of Sergeant Toombs has impacted other veterans in Tennessee suffering from PTSD. Since this devastating tragedy, positive measures have been made to raise awareness and improve the overall treatment of veterans suffering from PTSD within the Tennessee Valley Healthcare System.
SEC. 2. SERGEANT JOHN TOOMBS RESIDENTIAL REHABILITATION TREATMENT FACILITY.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The Mental Health Residential Rehabilitation Treatment Facility Expansion of the Department of Veterans Affairs Alvin C. York Medical Center in Murfreesboro, Tennessee, shall be known and designated as the “Sergeant John Toombs Residential Rehabilitation Treatment Facility”, after the date of the enactment of this Act.

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in any law, regulation, map, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the Alvin C. York Mental Health Residential Rehabilitation Treatment Facility referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the “Sergeant John Toombs Residential Rehabilitation Treatment Facility”.

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