

117TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 4359

AN ACT

To designate the regional office of the Department of Veterans Affairs in metropolitan Atlanta as the “Senator Johnny Isakson Department of Veterans Affairs Atlanta Regional Office”, and for other purposes.

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. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “Senator Johnny Isak-
3 son VA Regional Office Act of 2022”.

4 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

5 Congress finds the following:

6 (1) John Hardy Isakson, known as “Johnny”,
7 was born December 28, 1944, in Atlanta, Georgia,
8 to Julia Isakson and Edwin Andrew Isakson.

9 (2) Johnny Isakson graduated from the Univer-
10 sity of Georgia in 1966 with a Bachelor’s Degree in
11 Business Administration.

12 (3) In 1966, Johnny Isakson enlisted in the
13 Georgia Air National Guard, serving until 1972 and
14 attaining the rank of Staff Sergeant.

15 (4) Johnny Isakson gained success in private
16 business, serving for 22 years as a real estate execu-
17 tive and growing his business into one of the largest
18 of its kind in both Georgia and in the United States.

19 (5) Johnny Isakson was elected to the Georgia
20 General Assembly in 1976, serving in the State
21 House of Representatives until 1990.

22 (6) Johnny Isakson was elected to the Georgia
23 State Senate in 1992, serving until 1996.

24 (7) In 1996, Governor Zell Miller appointed
25 Johnny Isakson to be Chairman of the Georgia
26 State Board of Education.

1 (8) Johnny Isakson was elected to represent the
2 6th District of Georgia in the United States House
3 of Representatives in 1999, and served until 2005.

4 (9) During his time in the House of Represent-
5 atives, Johnny Isakson, as a member of the Com-
6 mittee on Education and Labor of the House of
7 Representatives, worked to improve American edu-
8 cation, and was a key advocate for the bipartisan
9 education reforms that became the No Child Left
10 Behind Act of 2001 (Public Law 107–110).

11 (10) Johnny Isakson was elected to the United
12 States Senate in 2004, serving until December 31,
13 2019.

14 (11) During his time in the Senate, Johnny
15 Isakson was an exemplar of courtesy, dignity, and
16 kindness, beloved and respected by colleagues re-
17 gardless of party.

18 (12) Johnny Isakson, during the 111th Con-
19 gress, demonstrated a bipartisan yearning for peace,
20 and crossed party lines to support the ratification of
21 the 2010 Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty between
22 the United States and the Russian Federation, also
23 known as New START.

24 (13) During the 114th, 115th, and 116th Con-
25 gresses, Johnny Isakson served as Chairman of the

1 Committee on Veterans' Affairs of the Senate, a po-
 2 sition with which he tirelessly championed reform to
 3 improve the benefits and quality of service for our
 4 nation's military veterans.

5 (14) During the 114th, 115th, and 116th Con-
 6 gresses, Johnny Isakson served as Chairman of the
 7 Select Committee on Ethics of the Senate.

8 (15) The late Congressman John Lewis once
 9 described Johnny Isakson as "A man who has
 10 strong belief but also willing to work with others to
 11 get things done."

12 (16) On December 19, 2021, Johnny Isakson
 13 passed away, but his legacy of character and good-
 14 will will endure as an example to all who serve, or
 15 will serve, in the United States Senate.

16 **SEC. 3. SENATOR JOHNNY ISAKSON DEPARTMENT OF VET-**
 17 **ERANS AFFAIRS ATLANTA REGIONAL OFFICE.**

18 (a) DESIGNATION.—The Department of Veterans Af-
 19 fairs Atlanta Regional Office in Georgia shall, after the
 20 date of the enactment of this Act, be known and des-
 21 ignated as the "Senator Johnny Isakson Department of
 22 Veterans Affairs Atlanta Regional Office" or the "Isakson
 23 VA Atlanta Regional Office".

24 (b) REFERENCE.—Any reference in a law, regulation,
 25 map, document, paper, or other record of the United

- 1 States to the Regional Office referred to in subsection (a)
- 2 shall be deemed to be a reference to the Senator Johnny
- 3 Isakson Department of Veterans Affairs Atlanta Regional
- 4 Office.

Passed the Senate July 27, 2022.

Attest:

Secretary.

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