

118TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 475

To designate the clinic of the Department of Veterans Affairs in Gallup, New Mexico, as the Hiroshi “Hershey” Miyamura VA Clinic.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

FEBRUARY 16, 2023

Mr. HEINRICH (for himself and Mr. LUJÁN) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Veterans’ Affairs

A BILL

To designate the clinic of the Department of Veterans Affairs in Gallup, New Mexico, as the Hiroshi “Hershey” Miyamura VA Clinic.

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. DESIGNATION OF HIROSHI “HERSHEY”**
4 **MIYAMURA DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AF-**
5 **FAIRS CLINIC.**

6 (a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds the following:

7 (1) Hiroshi “Hershey” Miyamura was born on
8 October 6, 1925, in Gallup, New Mexico.

1 (2) A second generation Japanese American,
2 Hershey Miyamura first served in the United States
3 Army near the end of World War II.

4 (3) Hershey Miyamura served in the Army at
5 a time when many of his fellow Japanese Americans,
6 and that includes his future wife, were detained in
7 internment camps in the United States.

8 (4) Hershey Miyamura served in the storied
9 442nd Infantry Regiment, which was composed of
10 soldiers with Japanese ancestry and became one of
11 the most decorated units in the history of the United
12 States military.

13 (5) Following the start of the Korean War in
14 1950, the Army recalled Hershey Miyamura, who
15 had remained as a member of the reserve compo-
16 nents of the Army, back into active duty.

17 (6) During an overnight firefight from April 24
18 to April 25, 1951, then-Corporal Miyamura covered
19 the withdrawal of his entire company from advanc-
20 ing enemy forces as a machine gun squad leader.

21 (7) The selfless actions by Hershey Miyamura
22 that night allowed all 16 of his men to withdraw
23 safely before he was severely wounded and captured
24 as a prisoner of war.

1 (8) Nearly 2½ years later, following his release
2 and return to the United States, President Eisen-
3 hower presented Hershey Miyamura with the Con-
4 gressional Medal of Honor in a ceremony at the
5 White House.

6 (9) The lifelong dedication of Hershey
7 Miyamura to the United States never ceased. It con-
8 tinued long after his decorated military service
9 ended.

10 (10) After he received his honorable discharge
11 from the Army, Hershey Miyamura opened a service
12 station along Route 66 in his hometown of Gallup,
13 New Mexico.

14 (11) Hershey Miyamura remained active in his
15 community until his dying days, advocating for his
16 fellow veterans and inspiring young people with lec-
17 tures on patriotism, faith, and service.

18 (b) DESIGNATION.—The clinic of the Department of
19 Veterans Affairs located at 2075 South NM Highway 602,
20 Gallup, New Mexico, shall after the date of the enactment
21 of this Act be known and designated as the “Hiroshi ‘Her-
22 shey’ Miyamura Department of Veterans Affairs Clinic”
23 or the “Hiroshi ‘Hershey’ Miyamura VA Clinic”.

24 (c) REFERENCES.—Any reference in any law, regula-
25 tion, map, document, paper, or other record of the United

- 1 States to the clinic referred to in subsection (b) shall be
- 2 considered to be a reference to the “Hiroshi ‘Hershey’
- 3 Miyamura VA Clinic”.

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