

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 4845

To designate the National Memorial Day Parade, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

AUGUST 1, 2025

Mr. ELLZEY introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, and in addition to the Committee on Armed Services, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

A BILL

To designate the National Memorial Day Parade, 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,*

3 **SECTION 1. DESIGNATION OF THE NATIONAL MEMORIAL**
4 **DAY PARADE IN RECOGNITION OF AMERICA'S**
5 **FALLEN HEROES.**

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

7 (1) At the start of World War II, President
8 Franklin D. Roosevelt and General George Marshall
9 reviewed a National Memorial Day Parade in Wash-

1 ington, DC, on May 30, 1942. This parade was not
2 renewed for the next 62 years.

3 (2) On May 31, 2004, American Veterans Cen-
4 ter continued the tradition with a National Memorial
5 Day Parade in Washington, DC.

6 (3) Every year since 2004, the National Memo-
7 rial Day Parade in Washington, DC, provides the
8 largest Memorial Day event in the United States,
9 drawing hundreds of thousands of participants and
10 spectators to DC, and has been broadcasted to over
11 one hundred million homes nationwide, and world-
12 wide on American Forces Network.

13 (4) The National Memorial Day Parade in
14 Washington, DC, represents a timeline of American
15 history, spotlighting our shared story through histor-
16 ical re-enactors, veterans, active-duty personnel, and
17 musical performers, live on Constitution Avenue and
18 from historic sites around the country.

19 (5) The National Memorial Day Parade in
20 Washington, DC, enhances the knowledge of the
21 American people on the importance of commemo-
22 rating Memorial Day, and ensures that all future
23 generations understand the sacrifices made to pre-
24 serve freedom, democracy, and benefits of peace.

1 (b) DESIGNATION.—The National Memorial Day Pa-
2 rade in Washington, DC, shall be designated as the “Na-
3 tional Memorial Day Parade”.

4 (c) SUPPORT BY THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE.—
5 In order to honor American veterans, including American
6 veterans of past wars, the Secretary of Defense may pro-
7 vide such support that the Secretary determines appro-
8 priate for a parade to be carried out in the District of
9 Columbia. In providing support under this subsection, the
10 Secretary may—

11 (1) use units of the active and reserve compo-
12 nents of the Armed Forces in the National Memorial
13 Day Parade in Washington, DC; and

14 (2) use Federal funds for the display of small
15 arms and munitions appropriate for customary cere-
16 monial honors.

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