

105TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 3970

To amend title 10, United States Code, to provide that persons who have been convicted of a capital crime may not be awarded the Purple Heart.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 22, 1998

Mr. McKEON (for himself and Mr. STUMP) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on National Security

A BILL

To amend title 10, United States Code, to provide that persons who have been convicted of a capital crime may not be awarded the Purple Heart.

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. DISQUALIFICATION FROM ELIGIBILITY FOR**
4 **PURPLE HEART FOR PERSONS CONVICTED**
5 **OF CAPITAL CRIMES.**

6 (a) IN GENERAL.—(1) Chapter 57 of title 10, United
7 States Code, is amended by adding at the end the follow-
8 ing new section:

1 **“§ 1131. Persons convicted of capital crimes: disquali-**
2 **fication from eligibility for Purple Heart**

3 “(a) DISQUALIFICATION.—A person who has been
4 convicted of a capital offense for which the person was
5 sentenced to death or life imprisonment without parole
6 may not be awarded the Purple Heart.

7 “(b) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

8 “(1) The term ‘capital offense’ means an of-
9 fense under Federal or State law for which the
10 death penalty may be imposed.

11 “(2) The term ‘State’ includes the District of
12 Columbia and any commonwealth or territory of the
13 United States.”.

14 (2) The table of sections at the beginning of such
15 chapter is amended by adding at the end the following
16 new item:

“1131. Persons convicted of capital crimes: disqualification from eligibility for
Purple Heart.”.

17 (b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—Section 1131 of title 10,
18 United States Code, as added by subsection (a), shall
19 apply with respect to the award of the Purple Heart after
20 the date of the enactment of this Act.

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