

105TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# S. 1903

To prohibit the return of veterans memorial objects to foreign nations without specific authorization in law.

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## IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

APRIL 1, 1998

Mr. THOMAS (for himself, Mr. ENZI, Mr. THURMOND, Mr. HELMS, Mr. HAGEL, and Mr. SMITH of Oregon) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs

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## A BILL

To prohibit the return of veterans memorial objects to foreign nations without specific authorization in law.

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. PROHIBITION ON RETURN OF VETERANS ME-**  
4                       **MORIAL OBJECTS WITHOUT SPECIFIC AU-**  
5                       **THORIZATION IN LAW.**

6       (a) PROHIBITION.—Notwithstanding any other provi-  
7       sion of law, the President may not transfer a veterans me-  
8       morial object to a foreign country or entity controlled by  
9       a foreign government, or otherwise transfer or convey such  
10      object to a person or entity for purposes of the ultimate

1 transfer or conveyance of such object to a foreign country  
 2 or entity controlled by a foreign government, unless spe-  
 3 cifically authorized by law.

4 (b) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

5 (1) ENTITY CONTROLLED BY A FOREIGN GOV-  
 6 ERNMENT.—The term “entity controlled by a for-  
 7 eign government” has the meaning given that term  
 8 in section 2536(c)(1) of title 10, United States  
 9 Code.

10 (2) VETERANS MEMORIAL OBJECT.—The term  
 11 “veterans memorial object” means any object, in-  
 12 cluding a physical structure or portion thereof,  
 13 that—

14 (A) is located at a cemetery of the Na-  
 15 tional Cemetery System, war memorial, or mili-  
 16 tary installation in the United States;

17 (B) is dedicated to, or otherwise memorial-  
 18 izes, the death in combat or combat-related du-  
 19 ties of members of the United States Armed  
 20 Forces; and

21 (C) was brought to the United States from  
 22 abroad as a memorial of combat abroad.

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