

106TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 404

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

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

FEBRUARY 10, 1999

Mr. THOMAS (for himself, Mr. ENZI, Mr. HELMS, Mr. MURKOWSKI, Mr. COVERDELL, Mr. HAGEL, Mr. SMITH of Oregon, Mr. SMITH of New Hampshire, Mr. ROBERTS, Mr. NICKLES, and Mr. SESSIONS) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs

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 THE RETURN OF VETERANS**

4 **MEMORIAL OBJECTS TO FOREIGN NATIONS**

5 **WITHOUT SPECIFIC AUTHORIZATION IN LAW.**

6 (a) PROHIBITION.—Notwithstanding section 2572 of
7 title 10, United States Code, or any other provision of law,
8 the President may not transfer a veterans memorial object
9 to a foreign country or entity controlled by a foreign gov-

1 ernment, or otherwise transfer or convey such object to
 2 a person or entity for purposes of the ultimate transfer
 3 or conveyance of such object to a foreign country or entity
 4 controlled by a foreign government, unless specifically au-
 5 thorized by law.

6 (b) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

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

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

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

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

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

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