

107TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# S. 1814

To name the national cemetery in Saratoga, New York, as the Gerald B.H. Solomon Saratoga National Cemetery, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

DECEMBER 12, 2001

Mr. SCHUMER (for himself and Mrs. CLINTON) introduced the following bill;  
which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs

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## A BILL

To name the national cemetery in Saratoga, New York,  
as the Gerald B.H. Solomon Saratoga National Cemetery,  
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. FINDINGS.**

4       The Congress finds the following:

5               (1) Gerald Brooks Hunt “Jerry” Solomon of  
6       Glens Falls, New York, served in the House of Rep-  
7       resentatives for 10 terms, from January 3, 1979, to  
8       January 3, 1999, and during that service gained a  
9       reputation for being outspoken and tenacious in pre-  
10      senting his views on a wide range of issues.

1           (2) Congressman Solomon was born in Okeechobee, Florida, and grew up there during the Great  
2           Depression before moving to New York in 1945.

3           (3) Congressman Solomon enlisted in the  
4           United States Marine Corps at the onset of the Korean War and served in the Marine Corps for 8½  
5           years on active and reserve duty.

6           (4) Before being elected to Congress in 1978,  
7           Congressman Solomon was a businessman in Glens Falls, New York.

8           (5) During his 20-year congressional career,  
9           Congressman Solomon served as the ranking Republican on the Committee on Veterans' Affairs, where  
10          he was recognized by the veterans community as one  
11          of its strongest advocates. Among his other accomplishments for veterans, Congressman Solomon  
12          spearheaded the effort to create the Cabinet-level Department of Veterans Affairs and successfully led  
13          a 15-year drive to establish the Saratoga National Cemetery in Saratoga, New York, where he is now  
14          interred.

15          (6) Congressman Solomon was also recognized  
16          for his efforts to promote pride, patriotism, and volunteerism, and when the Supreme Court ruled that  
17          laws prohibiting the burning of the United States

1 flag were unconstitutional, Congressman Solomon  
2 was given the assignment to pass a constitutional  
3 amendment to prohibit desecration of the flag. The  
4 Solomon Amendment passed overwhelmingly in the  
5 House, but failed by one vote in the Senate.

6 (7) As chairman of the Committee on Rules of  
7 the House of Representatives, Congressman Sol-  
8 omon revamped the rules under which the House op-  
9 erates, abolishing proxy voting, opening all meetings  
10 to the media and the public, and making Congress  
11 subject to the same laws that the American people  
12 live under.

13 (8) During his congressional career, Congress-  
14 man Solomon was the recipient of dozens of major  
15 awards from many national veterans organizations,  
16 including the coveted “Iron Mike Award”, presented  
17 to him by the Marine Corps and Marine Corps  
18 League, and the Distinguished Citizen Award, pre-  
19 sented to him by the National Congressional Medal  
20 of Honor Society for his legislative successes on be-  
21 half of the United States military and veterans  
22 issues.

1 **SEC. 2. NAME OF THE NATIONAL CEMETERY IN SARATOGA,**  
2 **NEW YORK.**

3 (a) NAME.—The national cemetery located in Sara-  
4 toga, New York, shall after the date of the enactment of  
5 this Act be known and designated as the “Gerald B.H.  
6 Solomon Saratoga National Cemetery”. Any reference to  
7 such national cemetery in any law, regulation, map, docu-  
8 ment, record, or other paper of the United States shall  
9 be considered to be a reference to the Gerald B.H. Sol-  
10 omon Saratoga National Cemetery.

11 (b) MEMORIAL.—The Secretary of Veterans Affairs  
12 shall provide for the placement in the national cemetery  
13 referred to in subsection (a) of a suitable memorial to  
14 honor the memory of Gerald B.H. Solomon and his service  
15 to the United States.

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