

108TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 3388

To amend title 10, United States Code, to provide for the issuance of a military service medal to each member of the Armed Forces who served honorably during the Cold War, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

OCTOBER 29, 2003

Mr. TANCREDO (for himself, Mr. MOORE, and Mr. MORAN of Virginia) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Armed Services

A BILL

To amend title 10, United States Code, to provide for the issuance of a military service medal to each member of the Armed Forces who served honorably during the Cold War, 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. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Cold War Victory
5 Medal Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 (a) IN GENERAL.—Congress finds the following:

1 (1) The United States Armed Forces engaged
2 the forces of international communism from Sep-
3 tember 2, 1945, the end of World War II, through
4 December 26, 1991, the date of the disintegration of
5 the former Soviet Union.

6 (2) During that extended period, the United
7 States relied for the security of the Nation and its
8 interests on the performance by the Armed Forces
9 of their obligation to serve and defend the United
10 States.

11 (3) The defeat of the former Soviet Union and
12 its Warsaw Pact allies constituted the greatest suc-
13 cess of the Armed Forces since the end of World
14 War II.

15 (4) Many members of the Armed Forces who
16 served the Nation during the prolonged period of the
17 Cold War have not received the tangible recognition
18 that they are due for that service.

19 (b) REAFFIRMATION OF PRIOR FINDINGS.—Congress
20 reaffirms the findings in section 1084 of the National De-
21 fense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 1998 (Public Law
22 105–85; 10 U.S.C. note prec. 1121; 111 Stat. 1919–
23 1920), which commended members of the Armed Forces
24 and Government civilian personnel who served during the
25 Cold War, and notes that that section provided for the

1 issuance of a certificate of recognition for those members
2 and personnel.

3 **SEC. 3. COLD WAR VICTORY MEDAL.**

4 (a) **AUTHORITY.**—Chapter 57 of title 10, United
5 States Code, is amended by adding at the end the fol-
6 lowing new section:

7 **“§ 1134. Cold War Victory Medal**

8 “(a) **MEDAL AUTHORIZED.**—The Secretary con-
9 cerned shall issue a service medal, to be known as the
10 ‘Cold War Victory Medal’, to persons eligible to receive
11 the medal under subsection (b). The Cold War Victory
12 Medal shall be of an appropriate design approved by the
13 Secretary of Defense, with ribbons, lapel pins, and other
14 appurtenances.

15 “(b) **ELIGIBLE PERSONS.**—The following persons are
16 eligible to receive a Cold War Victory Medal:

17 “(1) A person who—

18 “(A) performed active duty or inactive
19 duty training as an enlisted member during the
20 Cold War;

21 “(B) completed the person’s initial term of
22 enlistment or, if discharged before completion of
23 such initial term of enlistment, was honorably
24 discharged after completion of not less than
25 180 days of service on active duty; and

1 “(C) has not received a discharge less fa-
2 vorable than an honorable discharge or a re-
3 lease from active duty with a characterization
4 of service less favorable than honorable.

5 “(2) A person who—

6 “(A) performed active duty or inactive
7 duty training as a commissioned officer or war-
8 rant officer during the Cold War;

9 “(B) completed the person’s initial service
10 obligation as an officer or, if discharged or sep-
11 arated before completion of such initial service
12 obligation, was honorably discharged after com-
13 pletion of not less than 180 days of service on
14 active duty; and

15 “(C) has not been released from active
16 duty with a characterization of service less fa-
17 vorable than honorable and has not received
18 discharge or separation less favorable than an
19 honorable discharge.

20 “(c) ONE MEDAL AUTHORIZED.—Not more than one
21 Cold War Victory Medal may be issued to or on behalf
22 of any person described in subsection (b).

23 “(d) ISSUANCE TO REPRESENTATIVE OF DE-
24 CEASED.—If a person described in subsection (b) dies be-
25 fore being issued a Cold War Victory Medal, the medal

1 shall be presented to the person’s representative, as des-
 2 ignated by the Secretary concerned.

3 “(e) REPLACEMENT.—Under regulations prescribed
 4 by the Secretary concerned, a Cold War Victory Medal
 5 that is lost, destroyed, or rendered unfit for use without
 6 fault or neglect on the part of the person to whom it was
 7 issued may be replaced without charge.

8 “(f) APPLICATION FOR MEDAL.—The Secretary con-
 9 cerned shall issue a Cold War Victory Medal to or on be-
 10 half of a person described in subsection (b) upon receipt
 11 by the Secretary concerned of an application for such
 12 medal, submitted in accordance with such regulations as
 13 the Secretary prescribes.

14 “(g) UNIFORM REGULATIONS.—The Secretary of De-
 15 fense shall ensure that regulations prescribed under this
 16 section by the Secretaries of the military departments are
 17 uniform so far as is practicable.

18 “(h) DEFINITION.—In this section, the term ‘Cold
 19 War’ means the period beginning on September 2, 1945,
 20 and ending on December 26, 1991.”.

21 (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections
 22 at the beginning of such chapter is amended by adding
 23 at the end the following new item:

“1134. Cold War Victory Medal.”.

