

109TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 545

To improve computer access for members of the United States Armed Forces serving in combat zones designated in connection with Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom so that such members can use electronic mail to communicate with family members and other persons.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 2, 2005

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Armed Services

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## A BILL

To improve computer access for members of the United States Armed Forces serving in combat zones designated in connection with Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom so that such members can use electronic mail to communicate with family members and other persons.

1       *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2       *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

1 **SECTION 1. COMPUTER ACCESS FOR MEMBERS OF THE**  
2 **ARMED FORCES SERVING IN OPERATION EN-**  
3 **DURING FREEDOM AND OPERATION IRAQI**  
4 **FREEDOM.**

5 (a) INCREASE IN NUMBER OF COMPUTERS IN COM-  
6 BAT ZONES.—As soon as practicable after the date of the  
7 enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Defense shall in-  
8 crease the number of computers located in combat zones  
9 designated in connection with Operation Enduring Free-  
10 dom and Operation Iraqi Freedom so that the total num-  
11 ber of computers available for regular use by members of  
12 the Armed Forces serving in such combat zones to send  
13 and receive personal electronic mail is at least double the  
14 number of computers available for such use as of Decem-  
15 ber 31, 2004.

16 (b) FUNDING SOURCES.—

17 (1) IN GENERAL.—To achieve the increase in  
18 computer access required by subsection (a), the Sec-  
19 retary of Defense shall maximize the use of existing  
20 Department of Defense computer equipment and ca-  
21 pabilities, free or reduced-cost equipment and serv-  
22 ices of private-sector entities, and programs to en-  
23 hance the morale and welfare of members of the  
24 Armed Forces. The Secretary may not award a con-  
25 tract to a commercial firm for the purposes of this

1 paragraph other than through the use of competitive  
2 procedures.

3 (2) DONATIONS.—The Secretary may accept  
4 gifts and donations in order to defray the costs of  
5 acquiring, transporting, installing, and maintaining  
6 the computer equipment required by this section.  
7 Such gifts and donations may be accepted from—

8 (A) any foreign government;

9 (B) any foundation or other charitable or-  
10 ganization, including any that is organized or  
11 operates under the laws of a foreign country;  
12 and

13 (C) any source in the private sector of the  
14 United States or a foreign country.

15 (c) NO COMPROMISE OF MILITARY MISSION.—The  
16 Secretary of Defense should not take any action under this  
17 section that would compromise the military objectives or  
18 mission of the Department of Defense.

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