

110TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2072

To authorize and request the President to award the Medal of Honor to Richard Gresko, of Newtown, Pennsylvania, for acts of valor in the Republic of Vietnam on March 11 and 12, 1970, while serving as a lance corporal in the Marine Corps during the Vietnam War.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 26, 2007

Mr. PATRICK J. MURPHY of Pennsylvania introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Armed Services

A BILL

To authorize and request the President to award the Medal of Honor to Richard Gresko, of Newtown, Pennsylvania, for acts of valor in the Republic of Vietnam on March 11 and 12, 1970, while serving as a lance corporal in the Marine Corps during the Vietnam War.

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. AUTHORIZATION AND REQUEST FOR AWARD**
2 **OF MEDAL OF HONOR TO RICHARD GRESKO**
3 **FOR ACTS OF VALOR DURING THE VIETNAM**
4 **WAR.**

5 (a) AUTHORIZATION.—The President is authorized
6 and requested to award the Medal of Honor under section
7 6241 of title 10, United States Code, to Richard Gresko,
8 of Newtown, Pennsylvania, for the acts of valor during the
9 Vietnam War described in subsection (b).

10 (b) ACTION DESCRIBED.—The acts of valor referred
11 to in subsection (a) are the actions of Richard Gresko in
12 the Republic of Vietnam on the night of March 11 and
13 12, 1970, while a lance corporal in the United States Ma-
14 rine Corps serving in the Third Battalion, Fifth Marine
15 Regiment, First Marine Division. On that night, Sergeant
16 (then Lance Corporal) Gresko was in one element of an
17 ambush set up to protect a village from enemy attack.
18 Around midnight, his element ambushed a Viet Cong unit
19 that was attempting to enter the village. During the ensu-
20 ing fight, Sergeant Gresko observed an enemy hand gre-
21 nade land near his position. With complete disregard for
22 his own personal safety and fully aware of the dangers
23 involved, he unhesitatingly threw himself on top of the gre-
24 nade, absorbing most of the blast fragments with his own
25 body in order to protect his men from certain injury and
26 possible death. Although painfully wounded, he continued

1 to direct his men's actions until the squad made their
2 sweep.

3 (c) WAIVER OF TIME LIMITATIONS.—The award
4 under subsection (a) may be made without regard to the
5 time limitations specified in section 6248 of title 10,
6 United States Code, or any other time limitation with re-
7 spect to the awarding of certain medals to persons who
8 served in the Navy or Marine Corps.

○