

110TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2333

To amend title 10, United States Code, to expedite the prompt return of the remains of deceased members of the Armed Forces to their loved ones for burial.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 15, 2007

Mr. STUPAK introduced the following bill; which was referred to the
Committee on Armed Services

A BILL

To amend title 10, United States Code, to expedite the prompt return of the remains of deceased members of the Armed Forces to their loved ones for burial.

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 “Sergeant First Class
5 James Priestap and Private First Class Alan Blohm Fall-
6 en Servicemember Respectful Return Act”.

7 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

8 Congress makes the following findings:

1 (1) Members of the Armed Forces who die
2 under the circumstances described in section 1481 of
3 title 10, United States Code, have made the ultimate
4 sacrifice for the United States, and their remains
5 should be treated with the utmost reverence and re-
6 spect.

7 (2) The family and friends of a deceased mem-
8 ber of the Armed Forces should be able to greet the
9 remains of their loved one at an airport near the
10 place designated for the disposition of the remains
11 and provide for the burial of their loved one with
12 proper honors and without undue delay or complica-
13 tion.

14 (3) Rural areas are frequently served by smaller
15 regional airports and are often a significant distance
16 from a major airport, and the practice of the De-
17 partment of Defense to finish the aircraft portion of
18 the transportation of the remains of a deceased
19 member of the Armed Forces at a major airport im-
20 poses undue burdens on the family and friends of
21 the deceased member.

1 **SEC. 3. TRANSPORTATION OF REMAINS OF DECEASED**
2 **MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES AND CER-**
3 **TAIN OTHER PERSONS.**

4 Section 1482(a)(8) of title 10, United States Code,
5 is amended by adding at the end the following new sen-
6 tence: “When transportation of the remains includes
7 transportation by aircraft under section 562 of the John
8 Warner National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal
9 Year 2007 (Public Law 109–364; 10 U.S.C. 1482 note),
10 the Secretary concerned shall provide, to the maximum ex-
11 tent practicable, for delivery of the remains by air to the
12 commercial, general aviation, or military airport nearest
13 to the place selected by the designee.”.

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