

110TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 284

To amend title 5, United States Code, to provide for the issuance of a prisoner-of-war medal to civilian employees of the Federal Government who, during war or under wartime conditions, are taken captive by armed forces or agents of a foreign government hostile to the United States.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 5, 2007

Mr. DAVIS of Kentucky introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform

A BILL

To amend title 5, United States Code, to provide for the issuance of a prisoner-of-war medal to civilian employees of the Federal Government who, during war or under wartime conditions, are taken captive by armed forces or agents of a foreign government hostile to the United States.

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 “Civilian Prisoner-of-
5 War Medal Act of 2007”.

1 **SEC. 2. PRISONER-OF-WAR MEDAL FOR CIVILIAN EMPLOY-**
2 **EES OF THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT.**

3 (a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 45 of title 5, United
4 States Code, is amended by adding at the end the fol-
5 lowing:

6 “SUBCHAPTER IV—MISCELLANEOUS AWARDS

7 “§ 4531. **Prisoner-of-war medal**

8 “(a) IN GENERAL.—The President shall issue a pris-
9 oner-of-war medal to any person who, while serving as an
10 employee, was forcibly taken prisoner and held captive—

11 “(1) while serving in a position or otherwise
12 performing functions in support of members of the
13 Armed Forces of the United States that were en-
14 gaged in an action or military operation or serving
15 with friendly forces under circumstances described in
16 paragraph (1), (2), or (3) of section 1128(a) of title
17 10, as determined by the President; or

18 “(2) by foreign armed forces that are hostile to
19 the United States, under circumstances which the
20 President finds to have been comparable to those
21 under which persons have generally been held cap-
22 tive by enemy armed forces during periods of armed
23 conflict.

24 “(b) DESIGN.—The prisoner-of-war medal shall be of
25 appropriate design, with ribbons and appurtenances.

1 “(c) NUMERICAL LIMITATION.—Not more than one
2 prisoner-of-war medal may be issued to a person under
3 this section. However, for each succeeding service that
4 would otherwise justify the issuance of such a medal, the
5 President may issue a suitable device to be worn as the
6 President determines.

7 “(d) ELIGIBILITY.—For a person to be eligible for
8 issuance of a prisoner-of-war medal under this section, the
9 person’s conduct must have been honorable for the period
10 of captivity which serves as the basis for the issuance, and
11 such captivity must not have been the result of any willful
12 misconduct on the part of such person.

13 “(e) ISSUANCE TO A REPRESENTATIVE.—If a person
14 dies before the issuance of a prisoner-of-war medal to
15 which the person is entitled under this section, the medal
16 may be issued to that person’s representative, as des-
17 ignated by the President.

18 “(f) REPLACEMENT.—Under regulations prescribed
19 by the President, a prisoner-of-war medal under this sec-
20 tion that is lost, destroyed, or rendered unfit for use with-
21 out fault or neglect on the part of the person to whom
22 it was issued may be replaced without charge.

23 “(g) COORDINATION.—Nothing in this section shall
24 affect the operation of section 1128 of title 10.”.

1 (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The analysis for chap-
2 ter 45 of title 5, United States Code, is amended by add-
3 ing at the end the following:

“SUBCHAPTER IV—MISCELLANEOUS AWARDS

“4531. Prisoner-of-war medal”.

4 **SEC. 3. EFFECTIVE DATE.**

5 The amendments made by this Act shall take effect
6 as of April 6, 1917, and shall apply to persons taken cap-
7 tive on or after that date.

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