

110TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# S. 1390

To provide for the issuance of a “forever stamp” to honor the sacrifices of the brave men and women of the armed forces who have been awarded the Purple Heart.

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## IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MAY 15, 2007

Mrs. CLINTON (for herself, Mr. VITTER, Mr. BROWN, and Mrs. DOLE) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

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## A BILL

To provide for the issuance of a “forever stamp” to honor the sacrifices of the brave men and women of the armed forces who have been awarded the Purple Heart.

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 “Perpetual Purple  
5       Heart Stamp Act”.

6       **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7       The Congress finds that—

8               (1) the Purple Heart is the oldest military deco-  
9       ration in the world still in use;

1           (2) the Purple Heart was first established by  
2       General George Washington on August 7, 1782, as  
3       the Honorary Badge of Distinction, otherwise known  
4       as the Badge of Military Merit or Decoration of the  
5       Purple Heart;

6           (3) the Purple Heart is awarded in the name of  
7       the President of the United States and may, among  
8       others, be awarded—

9           (A) to any member of the armed forces  
10       who is wounded in an action against or held  
11       prisoner of war by an enemy of the United  
12       States; or

13          (B) posthumously to the next of kin of any  
14       person who is a member of the armed forces at  
15       the time the person is killed or wounded under  
16       circumstances otherwise qualifying that person  
17       for award of the Purple Heart;

18          (4) more than 1,700,000 Americans have been  
19       awarded the Purple Heart; and

20          (5) the Purple Heart postage stamp, first  
21       issued by the United States Postal Service on May  
22       30, 2003, honors the sacrifices of the brave men and  
23       women of the armed forces who have been awarded  
24       the Purple Heart.

1 **SEC. 3. PERPETUAL PURPLE HEART STAMP.**

2 (a) IN GENERAL.—In order to continue to honor the  
3 sacrifices of the brave men and women of the armed forces  
4 who have been awarded the Purple Heart, the Postmaster  
5 General shall provide for the issuance of a forever stamp  
6 suitable for that purpose.

7 (b) DEFINITION.—For purposes of this Act, the term  
8 “forever stamp” means a definitive stamp which meets the  
9 postage required for first-class mail up to one ounce in  
10 weight, and which retains full validity for that purpose  
11 even if the rate of that postage is later increased.

12 (c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The stamp described in sub-  
13 section (a) shall be issued beginning as soon as practicable  
14 after the date of the enactment of this Act and shall not  
15 thereafter be discontinued.

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