

111<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESS  
1<sup>ST</sup> SESSION

# H. R. 3544

To amend title 38, United States Code, to provide guidelines for the establishment of new national cemeteries by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 9, 2009

Mr. FILNER introduced the following bill; which was referred to the  
Committee on Veterans' Affairs

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## A BILL

To amend title 38, United States Code, to provide guidelines for the establishment of new national cemeteries by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes.

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 “National Cemeteries  
5 Expansion Act of 2009”.

1 **SEC. 2. ESTABLISHMENT OF NEW NATIONAL CEMETERIES**  
2 **BY THE SECRETARY OF VETERANS AFFAIRS.**

3 Section 2404 of title 38, United States Code, is  
4 amended by adding at the end the following new sub-  
5 section:

6 “(h)(1) In selecting a location for the establishment  
7 of a new national cemetery under this chapter, the Sec-  
8 retary shall give priority to a location where at least  
9 110,000 veterans reside within a 75-mile radius of the lo-  
10 cation.

11 “(2) In conducting an annual performance measure  
12 of the percentage of veterans who are served by any ceme-  
13 tery, the Secretary shall—

14 “(A) use census tracts, rather than counties, as  
15 the primary geographic unit to test and identify po-  
16 tential locations for new national cemeteries and to  
17 determine the percentage of veterans served;

18 “(B) use methods to avoid the double counting  
19 of veterans in overlapping service areas; and

20 “(C) count veterans who reside in counties bi-  
21 sected by a service area using a proportional overlay  
22 method.”.

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