

112TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 4189

To require the Secretary of Defense to provide an annual certification that all programming on the American Forces Radio and Television Service represents the best-faith efforts by the Department of Defense to provide programming for members of the Armed Forces and their families that communicates the policies, priorities, programs, goals, and initiatives of the Department while avoiding airing programming that exhibits values contrary to the values of the Armed Forces and the United States.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 8, 2012

Mr. RYAN of Ohio introduced the following bill; which was referred to the
Committee on Armed Services

A BILL

To require the Secretary of Defense to provide an annual certification that all programming on the American Forces Radio and Television Service represents the best-faith efforts by the Department of Defense to provide programming for members of the Armed Forces and their families that communicates the policies, priorities, programs, goals, and initiatives of the Department while avoiding airing programming that exhibits values contrary to the values of the Armed Forces and 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,*

1 **SECTION 1. ANNUAL CERTIFICATION OF AMERICAN**
2 **FORCES RADIO AND TELEVISION SERVICE**
3 **PROGRAMMING.**

4 (a) FINDINGS.—Congress makes the following find-
5 ings:

6 (1) The American Forces Radio and Television
7 Service, also known as the Armed Forces Radio and
8 Television Service, is part of the Department of De-
9 fense and is headquartered at Fort George Meade,
10 Maryland.

11 (2) The mission of the American Forces Radio
12 and Television Service mission is to communicate
13 Department of Defense policies, priorities, programs,
14 goals, and initiatives through multi-channel broad-
15 cast quality radio and television services and ex-
16 panded internal information products.

17 (3) The American Forces Radio and Television
18 Service includes the Radio and Television Production
19 Office, the Pentagon Channel, and the AFN Broad-
20 cast Center.

21 (4) The American Forces Radio and Television
22 Service provides radio and television programming,
23 “a touch of home”, to members of the Armed
24 Forces, civilian employees of the Department of De-
25 fense, and their families serving outside the conti-
26 nental United States.

1 (b) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Con-
2 gress that programs broadcast by the American Forces
3 Radio and Television Service should seek to reflect the val-
4 ues, including equality, freedom, and service, to which
5 members of the Armed Forces and their fellow Americans
6 aspire, and the American Forces Radio and Television
7 Service should avoid airing programming that has a his-
8 tory of being contrary to these values.

9 (c) ANNUAL CERTIFICATION.—The Secretary of De-
10 fense shall provide an annual certification to Congress
11 that all programming broadcast by the American Forces
12 Radio and Television Service represents the best-faith ef-
13 forts by the Department of Defense to provide program-
14 ming that communicates the policies, priorities, programs,
15 goals, and initiatives of the Department while avoiding air-
16 ing programming that exhibits values contrary to the val-
17 ues of the Armed Forces and the United States.

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