

112TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 4913

To require designated military command responsibility and accountability for the care, handling, and transportation of the remains of a deceased member of the Army, Navy, Air Force, or Marine Corps who died overseas, from the place of death, through the defense mortuary system, until the remains are accepted by the member's next of kin, in order to ensure that the deceased member is treated with dignity, honor, and respect.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 26, 2012

Mr. COFFMAN of Colorado (for himself and Mr. COOPER) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Armed Services

A BILL

To require designated military command responsibility and accountability for the care, handling, and transportation of the remains of a deceased member of the Army, Navy, Air Force, or Marine Corps who died overseas, from the place of death, through the defense mortuary system, until the remains are accepted by the member's next of kin, in order to ensure that the deceased member is treated with dignity, honor, and respect.

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. CONTINUOUS MILITARY CHAIN OF CUSTODY**
2 **OVER TREATMENT AND TRANSPORTATION**
3 **OF REMAINS OF DECEASED MEMBERS OF**
4 **THE ARMY, NAVY, AIR FORCE, AND MARINE**
5 **CORPS WHO DIED OVERSEAS.**

6 Not later than 60 days after the date of the enact-
7 ment of this Act, the Secretary of Defense shall take such
8 steps as may be necessary to ensure that there is contin-
9 uous, designated military command responsibility and ac-
10 countability for the care, handling, and transportation of
11 the remains of each deceased member of the Army, Navy,
12 Air Force, or Marine Corps who died overseas, beginning
13 with the initial recovery of the remains, through the de-
14 fense mortuary system, until the interment of the remains
15 or the remains are otherwise accepted by the person des-
16 ignated as provided by section 1482(c) of title 10, United
17 States Code, to direct disposition of the remains.

○