

112TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 6095

To authorize the Secretaries of the military departments to provide an exception to the standards for awarding the Purple Heart for veterans of World War II whose service records are incomplete because of damage to the permanent record.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 10, 2012

Mr. DEUTCH introduced the following bill; which was referred to the
Committee on Armed Services

A BILL

To authorize the Secretaries of the military departments to provide an exception to the standards for awarding the Purple Heart for veterans of World War II whose service records are incomplete because of damage to the permanent record.

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 “Morris Soskil Path
5 to the Purple Heart Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. AWARD OF PURPLE HEART FOR VETERANS OF**
2 **WORLD WAR II WHOSE SERVICE RECORDS**
3 **ARE INCOMPLETE BECAUSE OF DAMAGE TO**
4 **THE PERMANENT RECORD.**

5 (a) **AUTHORITY TO CONSIDER UNOFFICIAL SOURCES**
6 **OF INFORMATION.**—In the case of an individual who
7 served during World War II as a member of the Armed
8 Forces and whose service records are incomplete because
9 of damage to the permanent record while in the possession
10 of the Department of Defense, the Secretary of the mili-
11 tary department who exercised jurisdiction over the indi-
12 vidual may provide an exception to the standards for
13 awarding the Purple Heart and consider unofficial sources
14 of information, including eyewitness statements whether
15 dating from the time of the incident or afterward, to deter-
16 mine whether the individual is eligible for the award of
17 the Purple Heart as a member of the Armed Forces who
18 was killed or wounded in action as the result of an act
19 of the enemy of the United States.

20 (b) **RECOMMENDATION BASED ON REVIEW.**—Based
21 upon the review under subsection (a) of the service records
22 and other information of an individual described in such
23 subsection, if the Secretary of the military department
24 concerned determines that the award of the Purple Heart
25 to that individual is warranted, the Secretary shall award
26 the Purple Heart to the individual.

1 (c) POSTHUMOUS AWARD.—The Purple Heart may
2 be awarded posthumously to an individual under sub-
3 section (b).

4 (d) WORLD WAR II DEFINED.—In this section, the
5 term “World War II” has the meaning given that term
6 in section 1126(d) of title 10, United States Code.

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