

113TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 5369

To amend title 38, United States Code, to ensure that the Secretary of Veterans Affairs is informed of the interment of deceased veterans, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 31, 2014

Mr. ROYCE (for himself and Ms. HAHN) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs

A BILL

To amend title 38, United States Code, to ensure that the Secretary of Veterans Affairs is informed of the interment of deceased veterans, 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 “Veterans Dignified
5 Burial Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. INFORMATION CONCERNING SCHEDULED INTER-**
2 **MENTS OF VETERANS.**

3 (a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 24 of title 38, United
4 States Code, is amended by adding at the end the fol-
5 lowing new section:

6 **“§ 2415. Information concerning scheduled inter-**
7 **ments**

8 “(a) SCHEDULED INTERMENT.—At the same time
9 that the Secretary confirms to a covered entity the veteran
10 status of a deceased veteran in the custody of the covered
11 entity, the Secretary shall request from the covered entity
12 the specific date of the scheduled interment of the de-
13 ceased veteran. During each 30-day period following the
14 date of such request, the Secretary shall repeat such re-
15 quest until the date on which the covered entity confirms
16 to the Secretary that the deceased veteran has been in-
17 terred.

18 “(b) ANNUAL REPORT.—Not later than January 31
19 of each year, the Secretary shall submit to the Committees
20 on Veterans’ Affairs of the House of Representatives and
21 the Senate a report on deceased veterans who were in-
22 terred after the 30-day period following the date on which
23 the Secretary made a request under subsection (a). Such
24 report shall include—

25 “(1) during the year prior to the year in which
26 the report is submitted, the number of deceased vet-

1 erans who were not interred during such period, in-
2 cluding the covered entity that had custody of each
3 deceased veteran; and

4 “(2) the number of such deceased veterans who,
5 as of the date of the report, are not yet interred, in-
6 cluding the covered entity that has custody of each
7 deceased veteran.

8 “(c) COVERED ENTITY DEFINED.—In this section,
9 the term ‘covered entity’ means a local medical examiner,
10 funeral director, county service group, or other similar en-
11 tity.”.

12 (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections
13 at the beginning of such chapter is amended by inserting
14 after the item relating to section 2414 the following new
15 item:

“2415. Information concerning scheduled interments.”.

