

113TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 2951

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 SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

NOVEMBER 20, 2014

Mr. HELLER introduced the following bill; which was read twice and 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.—(1) At the same
9 time that the Secretary confirms to a covered entity the
10 veteran status of a deceased veteran in the custody of the
11 covered entity, the Secretary shall request from the cov-
12 ered entity the specific date of the scheduled interment
13 of the deceased veteran.

14 “(2) During each 30-day period following the date of
15 a request made under paragraph (1) concerning a de-
16 ceased veteran, the Secretary shall repeat such request
17 until the date on which the covered entity confirms to the
18 Secretary that the deceased veteran has been interred.

19 “(b) ANNUAL REPORT.—(1) Not later than January
20 31 of each year, the Secretary shall submit to the Com-
21 mittee on Veterans’ Affairs of the Senate and the Com-
22 mittee on Veterans’ Affairs of the House of Representa-
23 tives a report on deceased veterans who were interred after
24 the 30-day period following the date on which the Sec-
25 retary made a request under subsection (a).

1 “(2) Each report submitted under paragraph (1)
2 shall include the following:

3 “(A) During the year prior to the year in which
4 the report is submitted, the number of deceased vet-
5 erans who were not interred during the period de-
6 scribed in paragraph (1), including the covered enti-
7 ty that had custody of each deceased veteran.

8 “(B) The number of such deceased veterans
9 who, as of the date of the report, are not yet in-
10 terred, including the covered entity that has custody
11 of each deceased veteran.

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

16 (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections
17 at the beginning of such chapter is amended by inserting
18 after the item relating to section 2414 the following new
19 item:

“2415. Information concerning scheduled interments.”.

