

Calendar No. _____

119TH CONGRESS
2^D SESSION**S. 2807**

[Report No. 119-_____]]

To amend title 38, United States Code, to modify the applicability of the authority to reconsider decisions of the Secretary of Veterans Affairs or the Secretary of the Army to inter the remains or honor the memory of a person in a national cemetery, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

SEPTEMBER 16, 2025

Mr. CORNYN (for himself, Ms. HIRONO, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. FETTERMAN, Mr. SCOTT of Florida, and Mr. SCHIFF) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs

_____ (legislative day, _____), _____

Reported by Mr. MORAN, with an amendment

[Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert the part printed in *italic*]

A BILL

To amend title 38, United States Code, to modify the applicability of the authority to reconsider decisions of the Secretary of Veterans Affairs or the Secretary of the Army to inter the remains or honor the memory of a person in a national cemetery, 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,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “Restoring the Sanctity
3 of Public Entombments, Cemeteries, and Tributes Act of
4 2025” or the “RESPECT Act of 2025”.

5 **SEC. 2. APPLICABILITY OF AUTHORITY TO RECONSIDER**
6 **DECISIONS TO INTER THE REMAINS OR**
7 **HONOR THE MEMORY OF A PERSON IN A NA-**
8 **TIONAL CEMETERY.**

9 (a) **IN GENERAL.**—Section 2411 of title 38, United
10 States Code, is amended—

11 (1) in subsection (d)(1), by inserting “made on
12 or after June 18, 1973,” after “reconsider a deci-
13 sion”; and

14 (2) in subsections (b)(4)(A), (b)(5)(A),
15 (d)(2)(A)(ii), and (e)(1)(B), by striking “to be a tier
16 III sex offender for purposes of the Sex Offender
17 Registration and Notification Act (34 U.S.C. 20901
18 et seq.)” each place it appears and inserting “to
19 meet the definition of a tier III sex offender under
20 section 111 of the Sex Offender Registration and
21 Notification Act (34 U.S.C. 20911)”.

22 (b) **CONFORMING REPEAL.**—Section 2 of the Alicia
23 Dawn Kochl Respect for National Cemeteries Act (Public
24 Law 113–65) is amended by striking subsection (c).

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 *This Act may be cited as the “Restoring the Sanctity*
3 *of Public Entombments, Cemeteries, and Tributes Act of*
4 *2026” or the “RESPECT Act of 2026”.*

5 **SEC. 2. APPLICABILITY OF AUTHORITY TO RECONSIDER DE-**
6 **CISIONS TO INTER THE REMAINS OR HONOR**
7 **THE MEMORY OF A PERSON IN A NATIONAL**
8 **CEMETERY.**

9 *(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 2411 of title 38, United*
10 *States Code, is amended—*

11 *(1) in subsection (d)(1), by inserting “made on*
12 *or after June 18, 1973,” after “reconsider a decision”;*

13 *(2) in subsections (b)(4)(A), (b)(5)(A),*
14 *(d)(2)(A)(ii), and (e)(1)(B), by striking “to be a tier*
15 *III sex offender for purposes of the Sex Offender Reg-*
16 *istration and Notification Act (34 U.S.C. 20901 et*
17 *seq.)” each place it appears and inserting “to meet*
18 *the definition of a tier III sex offender under section*
19 *111 of the Sex Offender Registration and Notification*
20 *Act (34 U.S.C. 20911)”;* and

21 *(3) by adding at the end the following new sub-*
22 *section:*

23 *“(g) This section shall apply with respect to applica-*
24 *tions for interment or memorialization made on or after*
25 *June 18, 1973.”.*

26 *(b) CONFORMING REPEALS.—*

1 (1) *Section 2 of the Alicia Dawn Koehl Respect*
2 *for National Cemeteries Act (Public Law 113–65) is*
3 *amended by striking subsection (c).*

4 (2) *Section 1 of the Act entitled “An Act to*
5 *amend title 38, United States Code, to prohibit inter-*
6 *ment or memorialization in certain cemeteries of per-*
7 *sons committing Federal or State capital crimes”, ap-*
8 *proved November 21, 1997 (Public Law 105–116), is*
9 *amended by striking subsection (c).*