

117TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1233

To authorize the President to award the Medal of Honor to James Megellas, formerly of Fond du Lac, Wisconsin, and most recently of Colleyville, Texas, before his death on April 2, 2020, for acts of valor on January 28, 1945, during the Battle of the Bulge in World War II.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 23, 2021

Mr. GROTHMAN (for himself, Mr. KIND, Mr. GALLAGHER, Ms. VAN DUYNÉ, Mr. STEIL, Mr. FITZGERALD, Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, Mr. TIFFANY, and Mr. POCAN) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Armed Services

A BILL

To authorize the President to award the Medal of Honor to James Megellas, formerly of Fond du Lac, Wisconsin, and most recently of Colleyville, Texas, before his death on April 2, 2020, for acts of valor on January 28, 1945, during the Battle of the Bulge in World War II.

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. AUTHORIZATION FOR AWARD OF THE MEDAL**
2 **OF HONOR TO JAMES MEGELLAS FOR ACTS**
3 **OF VALOR DURING BATTLE OF THE BULGE.**

4 (a) **WAIVER OF TIME LIMITATIONS.**—Notwith-
5 standing the time limitations specified in section 7274 of
6 title 10, United States Code, or any other time limitation
7 with respect to the awarding of certain medals to persons
8 who served in the Armed Forces, the President may award
9 the Medal of Honor under section 7271 of such title to
10 James Megellas, formerly of Fond du Lac, Wisconsin, and
11 most recently of Colleyville, Texas, before his death on
12 April 2, 2020, for the acts of valor during World War II
13 described in subsection (b).

14 (b) **ACTS OF VALOR DESCRIBED.**—The acts of valor
15 referred to in subsection (a) are the actions of James
16 Megellas on January 28, 1945, in Herresbach, Belgium,
17 during the Battle of the Bulge when, as a first lieutenant
18 in the 82nd Airborne Division, he led a surprise and dev-
19 astating attack on a much larger advancing enemy force,
20 killing and capturing a large number and causing others
21 to flee, single-handedly destroying an attacking German
22 Mark V tank with two hand-held grenades, and then lead-
23 ing his men in clearing and seizing Herresbach.

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