

115TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1419

To amend title 10, United States Code, to provide for the award of a military service medal to members of the Armed Forces who served honorably during the Cold War, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 7, 2017

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa (for himself, Ms. PINGREE, Mr. JONES, Miss RICE of New York, Mr. MASSIE, Mr. CURBELO of Florida, and Mr. RYAN of Ohio) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Armed Services

A BILL

To amend title 10, United States Code, to provide for the award of a military service medal to members of the Armed Forces who served honorably during the Cold War, 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 “Cold War Service
5 Medal Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. COLD WAR SERVICE MEDAL.**

7 (a) MEDAL AUTHORIZED.—

1 (1) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 57 of title 10,
2 United States Code, is amended by adding at the
3 end the following new section:

4 **“§ 1136. Cold War Service Medal**

5 “(a) MEDAL AUTHORIZED.—The Secretary con-
6 cerned may issue a service medal, to be known as the ‘Cold
7 War Service Medal’, to persons eligible to receive the
8 medal under subsection (c).

9 “(b) DESIGN.—The Cold War Service Medal shall be
10 of an appropriate design approved by the Secretary of De-
11 fense, with ribbons, lapel pins, and other appurtenances.

12 “(c) ELIGIBLE PERSONS.—Subject to subsection (d),
13 a person eligible to be issued the Cold War Service Medal
14 is any person who—

15 “(1) served on active duty in the armed forces
16 for not less than 24 consecutive months during the
17 Cold War;

18 “(2) was deployed as a member of the armed
19 forces outside the continental United States for a
20 period of at least 30 days during the Cold War;

21 “(3) was a member of a reserve component of
22 the armed forces and called or ordered to active duty
23 to participate in exercises or operations directly re-
24 lated to the Cold War, as determined by the Sec-
25 retary of Defense; or

1 “(4) performed such other service in the armed
2 forces during the Cold War as the Secretary of De-
3 fense may prescribe for purposes of this section.

4 “(d) REQUIRED CHARACTERIZATION OF SERVICE.—
5 In the case of a person described in subsection (c) who
6 is already discharged or released from the armed forces,
7 the person is eligible for the Cold War Service Medal only
8 if the discharge or release was under honorable conditions
9 after service in the armed forces characterized as honor-
10 able.

11 “(e) ONE MEDAL AUTHORIZED.—Not more than one
12 Cold War Service Medal may be issued to any person.

13 “(f) ISSUANCE TO NEXT-OF-KIN.—If a person de-
14 scribed in subsection (c) is deceased, the Secretary con-
15 cerned may provide for issuance of the Cold War Service
16 Medal to the next-of-kin of the person.

17 “(g) REPLACEMENT.—Under regulations prescribed
18 by the Secretary concerned, a Cold War Service Medal
19 may be replaced without charge if lost, destroyed, or ren-
20 dered unfit for use without fault or neglect on the part
21 of the person to whom it was issued.

22 “(h) REGULATIONS.—The issuance of a Cold War
23 Service Medal shall be subject to such regulations as the
24 Secretaries concerned shall prescribe for purposes of this
25 section. The Secretary of Defense shall ensure that any

1 regulations prescribed under this subsection are uniform
2 to the extent practicable.

3 “(i) COLD WAR DEFINED.—In this section, the term
4 ‘Cold War’ means the period beginning on September 2,
5 1945, and ending on December 26, 1991.”.

6 (2) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sec-
7 tions at the beginning of chapter 57 of such title is
8 amended by adding at the end the following new
9 item:

“1136. Cold War Service Medal.”.

10 (b) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Con-
11 gress that the Secretary of Defense should take appro-
12 priate actions to expedite—

13 (1) the design of the Cold War Service Medal
14 provided for by section 1136 of title 10, United
15 States Code (as added by subsection (a)); and

16 (2) the establishment and implementation of
17 mechanisms to facilitate the issuance of the Cold
18 War Service Medal to persons eligible for the
19 issuance of the medal under such section.

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