

117TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1737

To designate the Mental Health Residential Rehabilitation Treatment Facility Expansion of the Department of Veterans Affairs Alvin C. York Medical Center in Murfreesboro, Tennessee, as the “Sergeant John Toombs Residential Rehabilitation Treatment Facility”.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 10, 2021

Mr. DESJARLAIS (for himself, Mrs. HARSHBARGER, Mr. FLEISCHMANN, Mr. KUSTOFF, Mr. BURCHETT, Mr. GREEN of Tennessee, Mr. ROSE, Mr. COOPER, Mr. COHEN, and Mr. STEUBE) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Veterans’ Affairs

A BILL

To designate the Mental Health Residential Rehabilitation Treatment Facility Expansion of the Department of Veterans Affairs Alvin C. York Medical Center in Murfreesboro, Tennessee, as the “Sergeant John Toombs Residential Rehabilitation Treatment Facility”.

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. FINDINGS.**

4 Congress finds the following:

5 (1) Sergeant John Toombs of Murfreesboro,
6 Tennessee, served in the Tennessee Army National

1 Guard as a part of the highly distinguished 230th
2 Signal Corps.

3 (2) His six years in the National Guard in-
4 cluded a deployment to Afghanistan, where Sergeant
5 Toombs proudly served as a guard and escort for
6 visiting dignitaries and reporters traveling into high-
7 ly dangerous, war-ravaged areas in Afghanistan.

8 (3) As a result of his service in Afghanistan,
9 Sergeant Toombs developed symptoms of Posttrau-
10 matic Stress Disorder (PTSD), a disability he con-
11 tinued to suffer from after leaving the National
12 Guard in 2014.

13 (4) After two years of battling PTSD and fail-
14 ing to receive the necessary treatment, Sergeant
15 Toombs tragically took his own life in November of
16 2016.

17 (5) However, the life of Sergeant Toombs has
18 impacted other veterans in Tennessee suffering from
19 PTSD. Since this devastating tragedy, positive
20 measures have been made to raise awareness and
21 improve the overall treatment of veterans suffering
22 from PTSD within the Tennessee Valley Healthcare
23 System.

1 **SEC. 2. SERGEANT JOHN TOOMBS RESIDENTIAL REHABILI-**
2 **TATION TREATMENT FACILITY.**

3 (a) DESIGNATION.—The Mental Health Residential
4 Rehabilitation Treatment Facility Expansion of the De-
5 partment of Veterans Affairs Alvin C. York Medical Cen-
6 ter in Murfreesboro, Tennessee, shall be known and des-
7 ignated as the “Sergeant John Toombs Residential Reha-
8 bilitation Treatment Facility”, after the date of the enact-
9 ment of this Act.

10 (b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in any law, regula-
11 tion, map, document, paper, or other record of the United
12 States to the Alvin C. York Mental Health Residential Re-
13 habilitation Treatment Facility referred to in subsection
14 (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the “Sergeant
15 John Toombs Residential Rehabilitation Treatment Facil-
16 ity”.

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