

116TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 3871

To facilitate the performance of funeral honors details for veterans.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JUNE 3, 2020

Mr. ROUNDS introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Armed Services

A BILL

To facilitate the performance of funeral honors details for veterans.

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 “Rural Veterans Fu-
5 neral Honors Reform Act of 2020”.

6 **SEC. 2. PLAN ON PERFORMANCE OF FUNERAL HONORS DE-**

7 **TAILS BY MEMBERS OF OTHER ARMED**

8 **FORCES WHEN MEMBERS OF THE ARMED**

9 **FORCE OF THE DECEASED ARE UNAVAIL-**

10 **ABLE.**

11 (a) BRIEFING ON PLAN.—

1 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days
2 after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Sec-
3 retary of Defense shall provide a briefing to the
4 Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and
5 the House of Representatives setting forth a plan for
6 the performance of a funeral honors detail at the fu-
7 neral of a deceased member of the Armed Forces by
8 one or more members of the Armed Forces from an
9 Armed Force other than that of the deceased
10 when—

11 (A) members of the Armed Force of the
12 deceased are unavailable for the performance of
13 the detail; and

14 (B) the performance of the detail by mem-
15 bers of other Armed Forces is requested by the
16 family of the deceased.

17 (2) REPEAL OF REQUIREMENT FOR ONE MEM-
18 BER OF ARMED FORCE OF DECEASED IN DETAIL.—
19 Section 1491(b)(2) of title 10, United States Code,
20 is amended in the first sentence by striking “, at
21 least one of whom shall be a member of the armed
22 force of which the veteran was a member”.

23 (3) PERFORMANCE.—The plan required by
24 paragraph (1) shall authorize the performance of fu-
25 neral honors details by members of the Army Na-

1 tional Guard and the Air National Guard under sec-
2 tion 115 of title 32, United States Code, and may
3 authorize the remainder of such details to consist of
4 members of veterans organizations or other organi-
5 zations approved for purposes of section 1491 of
6 title 10, United States Code, as provided for by sub-
7 section (b)(2) of such section 1491.

8 (b) ELEMENTS.—The briefing under subsection (a)
9 shall include a description in detail the authorities and re-
10 quirements for the implementation of the plan, including
11 administrative, logistical, coordination, and funding au-
12 thorities and requirements.

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