

117TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 5201

To direct the Secretary of Defense to establish and maintain a database that contains up-to-date contact information for the next of kin of members of the Armed Forces under the jurisdiction of the Secretaries of the military departments.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 10, 2021

Mr. BACON introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Armed Services

A BILL

To direct the Secretary of Defense to establish and maintain a database that contains up-to-date contact information for the next of kin of members of the Armed Forces under the jurisdiction of the Secretaries of the military departments.

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. DATABASE OF NEXT OF KIN OF DECEASED**
4 **MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES.**

5 Not later than 180 days after the date of the enact-
6 ment of this Act, the Secretary of Defense shall prescribe
7 regulations that establish and maintain a database of the

1 Department of Defense that contains up-to-date contact
2 information for the next of kin of members of the Armed
3 Forces under the jurisdiction of the Secretaries of the
4 military departments. Such regulations shall ensure
5 that—

6 (1) a commander in a grade higher than O–5
7 may access the contact information for the next of
8 kin of a member who died while a member of the
9 unit under the command of such commander, re-
10 gardless of whether such member served under such
11 commander; and

12 (2) an individual named in such database
13 may—

14 (A) elect to not be contacted by an officer
15 described in paragraph (1); and

16 (B) change such election at any time.

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