

117TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2969

To amend title 38, United States Code, to authorize the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to inter in national cemeteries individuals who supported the United States in Laos during the Vietnam era, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 4, 2021

Mr. COSTA (for himself, Mr. PERLMUTTER, Mr. TIFFANY, Mr. GROTHMAN, Ms. SPEIER, Mr. LOWENTHAL, Ms. CRAIG, Mr. EMMER, Mr. RYAN, Ms. OMAR, Mr. FITZPATRICK, and Mr. YOUNG) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs

A BILL

To amend title 38, United States Code, to authorize the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to inter in national cemeteries individuals who supported the United States in Laos during the Vietnam era, 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 “Special Guerrilla Unit
5 Veterans Service Recognition Expansion Act of 2021”.

1 **SEC. 2. ELIGIBILITY FOR INTERNMENT IN NATIONAL CEME-**
2 **TERIES.**

3 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 2402(a)(10) of title 38,
4 United States Code, is amended—

5 (1) by striking the period at the end and insert-
6 ing “; or”; and

7 (2) by adding at the end the following new sub-
8 paragraph:

9 “(B) who—

10 “(i) the Secretary determines served
11 honorably with a special guerrilla unit or
12 irregular forces operating from a base in
13 Laos in support of the Armed Forces of
14 the United States at any time during the
15 period beginning February 28, 1961, and
16 ending May 7, 1975; and

17 “(ii) at the time of the individual’s
18 death—

19 “(I) was a citizen of the United
20 States or an alien lawfully admitted
21 for permanent residence in the United
22 States; and

23 “(II) resided in the United
24 States.”.

25 (b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by
26 this section shall have effect as if included in the enact-

1 ment of section 251(a) of title II of the Military Construc-
2 tion, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies Appropria-
3 tions Act, 2018 (division J of Public Law 115–141; 132
4 Stat. 824).

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