

117TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 2433

To direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to take actions necessary to ensure that certain individuals may update the burn pit registry with a registered individual's cause of death, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 8, 2021

Mr. RUIZ (for himself and Mr. WENSTRUP) introduced the following bill;  
which was referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs

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## A BILL

To direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to take actions necessary to ensure that certain individuals may update the burn pit registry with a registered individual's cause of death, 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 “Burn Pit Registry En-  
5 hancement Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. BURN PIT REGISTRY UPDATES.**

7 (a) INDIVIDUALS ELIGIBLE TO UPDATE.—

1           (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days  
2           after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Sec-  
3           retary of Veterans Affairs shall take actions nec-  
4           essary to ensure that the burn pit registry may be  
5           updated with the cause of death of a deceased reg-  
6           istered individual by—

7                   (A) an individual designated by such de-  
8                   ceased registered individual; or

9                   (B) if no such individual is designated, an  
10           immediate family member of such deceased reg-  
11           istered individual.

12          (2) DESIGNATION.—The Secretary shall pro-  
13          vide, with respect to the burn pit registry, a process  
14          by which a registered individual may make a des-  
15          ignation for purposes of paragraph (1)(A).

16          (b) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

17                (1) The term “burn pit registry” means the  
18                registry established under section 201 of the Dig-  
19                nified Burial and Other Veterans’ Benefits Improve-  
20                ment Act of 2012 (Public Law 112–260; 38 U.S.C.  
21                527 note).

22                (2) The term “immediate family member”, with  
23                respect to a deceased individual, means—

24                   (A) the spouse, parent, brother, sister, or  
25                   adult child of the individual;

1 (B) an adult person to whom the indi-  
2 vidual stands in loco parentis; or

3 (C) any other adult person—

4 (i) living in the household of the indi-  
5 vidual at the time of the death of the indi-  
6 vidual; and

7 (ii) related to the individual by blood  
8 or marriage.

9 (3) The term “registered individual” means an  
10 individual registered with the burn pit registry.

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