117TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION **H. R. 5757**

To amend title 10, United States Code, to provide for the award of a military service medal to members of the Armed Forces who served honorably during the Cold War, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

OCTOBER 27, 2021

Ms. PINGREE (for herself, Mr. MCKINLEY, and Mr. HIGGINS of New York) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Armed Services

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A BILL

To amend title 10, United States Code, to provide for the award of a military service medal to members of the Armed Forces who served honorably during the Cold War, 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 "Cold War Service

5   Medal Act".

6   **SEC. 2. COLD WAR SERVICE MEDAL.**

7   (a) MEDAL AUTHORIZED.—

1   (1) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 57 of title 10,

2 United States Code, is amended—

3   (A) by redesignating sections 1135 and

4   1136 as sections 1136 and section 1137, re-

5   spectively; and

6   (B) by inserting after section 1134 the fol-

7   lowing new section:

8 **"§ 1135. Cold War Service Medal**

9   "(a) MEDAL AUTHORIZED.—The Secretary con-

10 cerned may issue a service medal, to be known as the 'Cold

11 War Service Medal', to persons eligible to receive the

12 medal under subsection (c).

13   "(b) DESIGN.—The Cold War Service Medal shall be

14 of an appropriate design approved by the Secretary of De-

15 fense, with ribbons, lapel pins, and other appurtenances.

16   "(c) ELIGIBLE PERSONS.—Subject to subsection (d),

17 a person eligible to be issued the Cold War Service Medal

18 is any person who—

19   "(1) served on active duty in the armed forces

20   for not less than 24 consecutive months during the

21   Cold War;

22   "(2) was deployed as a member of the armed

23   forces outside the continental United States for a

24   period of at least 30 days during the Cold War;

1 ''(3) was a member of a reserve component of

2 the armed forces and called or ordered to active duty

3 to participate in exercises or operations directly re-

4 lated to the Cold War, as determined by the Sec-

5 retary of Defense; or

6 ''(4) performed such other service in the armed

7 forces during the Cold War as the Secretary of De-

8 fense may prescribe for purposes of this section.

9 ''(d) ONE MEDAL AUTHORIZED.—Not more than one

10 Cold War Service Medal may be issued to any person.

11 ''(e) ISSUANCE TO NEXT-OF-KIN.—If a person de-

12 scribed in subsection (c) is deceased, the Secretary con-

13 cerned may provide for issuance of the Cold War Service

14 Medal to the next-of-kin of the person.

15 ''(f) REGULATIONS.—The issuance of a Cold War

16 Service Medal shall be subject to such regulations as the

17 Secretaries concerned shall prescribe for purposes of this

18 section. The Secretary of Defense shall ensure that any

19 regulations prescribed under this subsection are uniform

20 to the extent practicable.

21 ''(g) COLD WAR DEFINED.—In this section, the term

22 'Cold War' means the period beginning on September 2,

23 1945, and ending on December 26, 1991.''.

24 (2) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sec-

25 tions at the beginning of chapter 57 of such title is

1 amended by striking the items relating to sections

2 1135 and 1136 and adding at the end the following

3 new items:

"1135. Cold War Service Medal.
"1136. Replacement of military decorations.
"1137. Honorable service requirement for award of military decorations.".

4 (b) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Con-

5 gress that the Secretary of Defense should take appro-

6 priate actions to expedite—

7 (1) the design of the Cold War Service Medal

8 provided for by section 1136 of title 10, United

9 States Code (as added by subsection (a)); and

10 (2) the establishment and implementation of

11 mechanisms to facilitate the issuance of the Cold

12 War Service Medal to persons eligible for the

13 issuance of the medal under such section.

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