

117TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 3363

To amend title 10, United States Code, to direct the Secretary concerned to pursue a claim against an entity hired by the Secretary concerned to return the personal effects of a deceased member of the Armed Forces to the next of kin.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 20, 2021

Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio 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 direct the Secretary concerned to pursue a claim against an entity hired by the Secretary concerned to return the personal effects of a deceased member of the Armed Forces to the next of kin.

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 “SPC Christian Ward  
5       Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. CLAIMS RELATING TO THE RETURN OF PERSONAL**  
2 **EFFECTS OF A DECEASED MEMBER OF THE**  
3 **ARMED FORCES.**

4 Section 1482(a) of title 10, United States Code, is  
5 amended by adding at the end the following new para-  
6 graph:

7 “(11)(A) Delivery of personal effects of a dece-  
8 dent to the next of kin or other appropriate person.

9 “(B) If the Secretary concerned enters into an  
10 agreement with an entity to carry out subparagraph  
11 (A), the Secretary concerned shall pursue a claim  
12 against such entity that arises from the failure of  
13 such entity to carry out such subparagraph.

14 “(C) If an entity described in subparagraph (B)  
15 fails to carry out subparagraph (A) because of the  
16 loss or destruction of the personal effects of a dece-  
17 dent, the Secretary concerned shall reimburse the  
18 next of kin or other appropriate person the amount  
19 of the value of such personal effects.”.

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