

113TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1497

To amend title 36, United States Code, to ensure that memorials commemorating the service of the United States Armed Forces may contain religious symbols, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 11, 2013

Mr. HUNTER (for himself, Mr. MILLER of Florida, Mr. DUNCAN of South Carolina, Mr. McCLINTOCK, Mr. JONES, Mr. LAMALFA, Mr. ROE of Tennessee, Mr. NUNNELEE, Mr. LATTA, Mr. CALVERT, Mr. CHABOT, Mr. COBLE, Mr. VARGAS, Mr. PETERS of California, Mr. ISSA, and Mr. KLINE) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Natural Resources

A BILL

To amend title 36, United States Code, to ensure that memorials commemorating the service of the United States Armed Forces may contain religious symbols, 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 “War Memorial Protec-
5 tion Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. INCLUSION OF RELIGIOUS SYMBOLS AS PART OF**
2 **MILITARY MEMORIALS.**

3 (a) **AUTHORITY.**—Chapter 21 of title 36, United
4 States Code, is amended by adding at the end the fol-
5 lowing:

6 **“§ 2115. Inclusion of religious symbols as part of mili-**
7 **tary memorials**

8 “(a) **INCLUSION OF RELIGIOUS SYMBOLS AUTHOR-**
9 **IZED.**—To recognize the religious background of members
10 of the United States Armed Forces, religious symbols may
11 be included as part of—

12 “(1) a military memorial that is established or
13 acquired by the United States Government; or

14 “(2) a military memorial that is not established
15 by the United States Government, but for which the
16 American Battle Monuments Commission cooperated
17 in the establishment of the memorial.

18 “(b) **MILITARY MEMORIAL DEFINED.**—In this sec-
19 tion, the term ‘military memorial’ means a memorial or
20 monument commemorating the service of the United
21 States Armed Forces. The term includes works of archi-
22 tecture and art described in section 2105(b) of this title.”.

1 (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections
2 at the beginning of such chapter is amended by adding
3 at the end the following:

“2115. Inclusion of religious symbols as part of military memorials.”.

