

115TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 1692

To authorize the National Emergency Medical Services Memorial Foundation to establish a commemorative work in the District of Columbia and its environs, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

AUGUST 1, 2017

Mr. COONS (for himself, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. COTTON, Mr. CASSIDY, Mrs. SHAHEEN, and Ms. WARREN) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

A BILL

To authorize the National Emergency Medical Services Memorial Foundation to establish a commemorative work in the District of Columbia and its environs, 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 “National Emergency
5 Medical Services Commemorative Work Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 Congress finds that—

1 (1) each year, throughout the United States,
2 the 850,000 first responders of Emergency Medical
3 Services answer more than 30,000,000 calls to serve
4 22,000,000 patients in need of life-saving care and
5 comfort at a moment of notice and without reserva-
6 tion;

7 (2) with little regard for their own safety and
8 in the face of all hazards, the first responders of
9 Emergency Medical Services respond across the
10 spectrum of incidents from a medical emergency of
11 a single person to naturally occurring or manmade
12 disasters, including terrorist attacks that threaten
13 the entire United States;

14 (3) the commitment of the first responders of
15 Emergency Medical Services to others, at a moment
16 of notice and despite risk, exemplifies the finest tra-
17 ditions of the spirit of the people of the United
18 States;

19 (4) as an element of the homeland defense
20 strategy of the United States, Emergency Medical
21 Services stands on the “Nation’s first line of defense
22 in the prevention and mitigation of risk from ter-
23 rorist attacks, man-made incidents, and natural dis-
24 asters”;

1 (5) the first responders of Emergency Medical
2 Services, along with the members of Law Enforce-
3 ment and Fire Services, serving in both the public
4 and private sectors as career and volunteer emer-
5 gency medical service providers—

6 (A) are a critical element of the homeland
7 and national security efforts of the United
8 States; and

9 (B) provide for the domestic tranquility of
10 the citizens of the United States;

11 (6) all too often the risks associated with the
12 critical role of Emergency Medical Services results in
13 an unacceptable rate of injury and fatality to first
14 responders;

15 (7) statistics compiled by the Department of
16 Labor and the National Highway Safety Administra-
17 tion indicate that Emergency Medical Services pro-
18 viders—

19 (A) die in the line of duty at a rate more
20 than twice the national average for all occupa-
21 tional fatalities; and

22 (B) experience an injury rate of virtually
23 100 percent during the careers of the providers;

24 (8) the United States has historically and con-
25 tinually relied on the selfless and ultimate sacrifices

1 made by citizens in service to the United States and
2 the families and loved ones of citizens in service to
3 the United States, in order to maintain the domestic
4 tranquility, safety, and security of the United States;

5 (9) the first responders of Emergency Medical
6 Services continue to serve in this finest tradition, in
7 the face of unacceptable sacrifice, risk, and danger
8 in service to the United States and the citizens of
9 the United States;

10 (10) the scope of responsibility assumed by the
11 first responders of Emergency Medical Services is
12 broad and unique; and

13 (11) the sacrifice and commitment of the first
14 responders of Emergency Medical Services in service
15 to the United States is deserving of a commemora-
16 tive work that recognizes the sacrifice and commit-
17 ment of the first responders.

18 **SEC. 3. AUTHORIZATION TO ESTABLISH COMMEMORATIVE**
19 **WORK BY THE NATIONAL EMERGENCY MED-**
20 **ICAL SERVICES MEMORIAL FOUNDATION.**

21 (a) IN GENERAL.—The National Emergency Medical
22 Services Memorial Foundation (referred to in this section
23 as the “Foundation”) may establish a commemorative
24 work on Federal land in the District of Columbia and its

1 environs to commemorate the commitment and service
2 represented by Emergency Medical Services.

3 (b) COMPLIANCE WITH STANDARDS FOR COMMEMO-
4 RATIVE WORKS.—The establishment of the commemora-
5 tive work under this section shall be in accordance with
6 chapter 89 of title 40, United States Code (commonly
7 known as the “Commemorative Works Act”).

8 (c) PAYMENT OF EXPENSES.—

9 (1) RESPONSIBILITY OF NATIONAL EMERGENCY
10 MEDICAL SERVICES MEMORIAL FOUNDATION.—The
11 Foundation shall be solely responsible for acceptance
12 of contributions for, and payment of the expenses of,
13 the establishment of the commemorative work under
14 this section.

15 (2) USE OF FEDERAL FUNDS PROHIBITED.—
16 Federal funds may not be used to pay any expense
17 of the establishment of the commemorative work
18 under this section.

19 (d) DEPOSIT OF EXCESS FUNDS.—

20 (1) IN GENERAL.—If on payment of all ex-
21 penses for the establishment of the commemorative
22 work (including the maintenance and preservation
23 amount required by section 8906(b)(1) of title 40,
24 United States Code), there remains a balance of
25 funds received for the establishment of the com-

1 memorative work under this section, the Foundation
2 shall transmit the amount of the balance to the Sec-
3 retary of the Interior for deposit in the account pro-
4 vided for in section 8906(b)(3) of title 40, United
5 States Code.

6 (2) ON EXPIRATION OF AUTHORITY.—If on ex-
7 piration of the authority for the commemorative
8 work under section 8903(e) of title 40, United
9 States Code, there remains a balance of funds re-
10 ceived for the establishment of the commemorative
11 work under this section, the Foundation shall trans-
12 mit the amount of the balance to a separate account
13 with the National Park Foundation for memorials,
14 to be available to the Secretary of the Interior or
15 Administrator of General Services, as appropriate, in
16 accordance with the process provided in section
17 8906(b)(4) of title 40, United States Code, for ac-
18 counts established under paragraph (2) or (3) of
19 section 8906(b) of title 40, United States Code.

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