

## HR 3368

Honor Act of 2009

**Congress:** 111 (2009–2011, Ended)

**Chamber:** House

**Policy Area:** Armed Forces and National Security

**Introduced:** Jul 28, 2009

**Current Status:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Military Personnel.

**Latest Action:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Military Personnel. (Oct 28, 2009)

**Official Text:** <https://www.congress.gov/bill/111th-congress/house-bill/3368>

### Sponsor

**Name:** Rep. Markey, Betsy [D-CO-4]

**Party:** Democratic • **State:** CO • **Chamber:** House

### Cosponsors

No cosponsors are listed for this bill.

### Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Armed Services Committee	House	Referred to	Oct 28, 2009
Veterans' Affairs Committee	House	Referred to	Jul 31, 2009
Ways and Means Committee	House	Referred To	Jul 28, 2009

### Subjects & Policy Tags

#### Policy Area:

Armed Forces and National Security

### Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
111 S 772	Identical bill	Apr 1, 2009: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

Honor Act of 2009 - Directs the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to carry out a program to provide scholarships for the pursuit of a graduate or postgraduate degree in behavioral health sciences to veterans who performed active-duty service in a theater of combat or during a contingency operation overseas. Requires the veteran, following completion of the degree requirements, to serve for an agreed-upon period with either the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) or Department of Defense (DOD) furnishing mental health services to veterans or to members of the Armed Forces (members).

Directs the Secretary of Defense to carry out a program to employ and train former members who performed service described above as DOD psychiatric technicians and nurses providing mental health counseling and related services to members deployed to a combat zone.

Directs the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, upon request, to provide: (1) referral and related assistance to former members not otherwise authorized for counseling through the VA; and (2) readjustment counseling and mental health services to former members through Vet Centers.

Requires the suicide of a former member with a medical history of a combat-related mental health condition, post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), or traumatic brain injury (TBI) that occurs within a two-year period after separation or retirement to be treated as a death in the line of active duty for purposes of eligibility for active-duty survivors' benefits provided through the VA.

Requires the Secretaries of Defense and Veterans Affairs, jointly and annually, to: (1) review and assess their respective programs for the reintegration of members and veterans into civilian life following their retirement, discharge, or release; and (2) report review and assessment results to Congress.

## **Actions Timeline**

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- **Oct 28, 2009:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Military Personnel.
- **Jul 31, 2009:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Health.
- **Jul 28, 2009:** Introduced in House
- **Jul 28, 2009:** Referred to House Veterans' Affairs
- **Jul 28, 2009:** Referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs, and in addition to the Committees on Armed Services, and Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.
- **Jul 28, 2009:** Referred to House Armed Services
- **Jul 28, 2009:** Referred to House Ways and Means