

## HR 2720

To clarify the role of the Department of Veterans Affairs in providing a benefit or service related to the interment or funeral of a veteran, and for other purposes.

**Congress:** 112 (2011–2013, Ended)

**Chamber:** House

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

**Introduced:** Aug 1, 2011

**Current Status:** Subcommittee Hearings Held.

**Latest Action:** Subcommittee Hearings Held. (Jun 6, 2012)

**Official Text:** <https://www.congress.gov/bill/112th-congress/house-bill/2720>

### Sponsor

**Name:** Rep. Culberson, John Abney [R-TX-7]

**Party:** Republican • **State:** TX • **Chamber:** House

### Cosponsors (2 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Poe, Ted [R-TX-2]	R · TX		Oct 5, 2011
Rep. Green, Gene [D-TX-29]	D · TX		Jul 31, 2012

### Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Veterans' Affairs Committee	House	Hearings By (subcommittee)	Jun 6, 2012

### Subjects & Policy Tags

#### Policy Area:

Armed Forces and National Security

### Related Bills

No related bills are listed.

Limits the role of the Secretary of Veterans Affairs in interments or funerals, memorial services, or ceremonies of deceased veterans to providing: (1) such veterans with benefits earned by serving the United States, (2) any necessary maintenance of national cemeteries and other facilities under control of the National Cemetery Administration, and (3) any necessary security or traffic control with respect to such services at national cemeteries and facilities under such Administration's control.

Directs the Secretary to ensure that: (1) a suitable chapel is provided to the deceased's family, and (2) any requested honor guard or other nongovernmental group is provided access to such services and Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) health care facilities.

Requires each VA cemetery director to be a veteran.

Prohibits federal government officials, including the Secretary, from interfering with the content and creed of such services, as expressed by the last will and testament of the individual or as determined by the family or agent of the individual, as provided under state law.

### **Actions Timeline**

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- **Jun 6, 2012:** Subcommittee Hearings Held.
- **Sep 12, 2011:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Disability Assistance and Memorial Affairs.
- **Aug 1, 2011:** Introduced in House
- **Aug 1, 2011:** Referred to the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs.