

S 1471

Alicia Dawn Koehl Respect for National Cemeteries Act

Congress: 113 (2013–2015, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Armed Forces and National Security

Introduced: Aug 1, 2013

Current Status: Became Public Law No: 113-65.

Latest Action: Became Public Law No: 113-65. (Dec 20, 2013)

Law: 113-65 (Enacted Dec 20, 2013)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/113th-congress/senate-bill/1471>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Coats, Daniel [R-IN]

Party: Republican • **State:** IN • **Chamber:** Senate

Cosponsors (2 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Burr, Richard [R-NC]	R · NC		Aug 1, 2013
Sen. Donnelly, Joe [D-IN]	D · IN		Aug 1, 2013

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Armed Services Committee	House	Referred To	Nov 19, 2013
Veterans' Affairs Committee	Senate	Discharged From	Nov 19, 2013
Veterans' Affairs Committee	House	Referred to	Nov 25, 2013

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Armed Forces and National Security

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
113 HR 3106	Identical bill	Nov 6, 2013: Referred to the Subcommittee on Military Personnel.

(This measure has not been amended since it was passed by the Senate on November 18, 2013. The summary of that version is repeated here.)

Alicia Dawn Koehl Respect for National Cemeteries Act - Authorizes the appropriate federal official (either the Secretary of Veterans Affairs [VA] or the Secretary of the Army) to reconsider a decision to inter or honor the memory of a person in the National Cemetery Administration or in Arlington National Cemetery upon receiving information that such person may have committed a federal or state capital crime but was not convicted by reason of unavailability for trial due to death or flight to avoid prosecution.

Requires such official, upon finding, after an opportunity for a hearing, that the person committed but was not convicted of such crime, to provide notice to the individual's next of kin or other person authorized to arrange burial or memorialization of the deceased person of the decision to disinter such person's remains or remove a memorial headstone or marker. Allows such next of kin or other person 60 days to file a notice of disagreement, which shall initiate appellate review. Authorizes the appropriate federal official, when a decision becomes final, to disinter the remains or remove the memorial headstone or marker.

Modifies the exception to the prohibition against interment or memorialization in the National Cemetery System or Arlington National Cemetery of a person convicted of a federal or state capital crime to require receipt of written notice of a conviction before interment or memorialization takes place (currently, receipt of such notice is required before the appropriate federal official approves an application for interment or memorialization).

Directs the Secretary of Veterans Affairs: (1) to disinter the remains of Michael LaShawn Anderson from Fort Custer National Cemetery (Michigan); (2) to notify his next of kin of the impending disinterment; and (3) upon disinterment, to relinquish the remains to the next of kin or, if the next of kin of record is unavailable, arrange for the appropriate disposition of the remains.

Actions Timeline

- **Dec 20, 2013:** Signed by President.
- **Dec 20, 2013:** Became Public Law No: 113-65.
- **Dec 13, 2013:** Presented to President.
- **Dec 11, 2013:** Mr. Miller (FL) moved to suspend the rules and pass the bill.
- **Dec 11, 2013:** Considered under suspension of the rules. (consideration: CR H7640-7642)
- **Dec 11, 2013:** DEBATE - The House proceeded with forty minutes of debate on S. 1471.
- **Dec 11, 2013:** At the conclusion of debate, the Yeas and Nays were demanded and ordered. Pursuant to the provisions of clause 8, rule XX, the Chair announced that further proceedings on the motion would be postponed.
- **Dec 11, 2013:** Considered as unfinished business. (consideration: CR H7667-7668)
- **Dec 11, 2013:** Passed/agreed to in House: On motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill Agreed to by the Yeas and Nays: (2/3 required): 398 - 1 (Roll no. 634).(text: CR H7640-7641)
- **Dec 11, 2013:** On motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill Agreed to by the Yeas and Nays: (2/3 required): 398 - 1 (Roll no. 634). (text: CR H7640-7641)
- **Nov 25, 2013:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Disability Assistance and Memorial Affairs.
- **Nov 18, 2013:** Senate Committee on Veterans' Affairs discharged by Unanimous Consent.
- **Nov 18, 2013:** Measure laid before Senate by unanimous consent. (consideration: CR S8135-8136)
- **Nov 18, 2013:** Passed/agreed to in Senate: Passed Senate with an amendment by Unanimous Consent.(text: CR S8136)
- **Nov 18, 2013:** Passed Senate with an amendment by Unanimous Consent. (text: CR S8136)
- **Nov 18, 2013:** Received in the House.
- **Nov 18, 2013:** Message on Senate action sent to the House.
- **Nov 18, 2013:** Referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs, and in addition to the Committee on Armed Services, 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.
- **Oct 30, 2013:** Committee on Veterans' Affairs. Hearings held. Hearings printed: S.Hrg. 113-280.
- **Aug 1, 2013:** Introduced in Senate
- **Aug 1, 2013:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.