

S 4250

Burial Equity for Guards and Reserves Act

Congress: 116 (2019–2021, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Armed Forces and National Security

Introduced: Jul 21, 2020

Current Status: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

Latest Action: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs. (Jul 21, 2020)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/senate-bill/4250>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Shaheen, Jeanne [D-NH]

Party: Democratic • **State:** NH • **Chamber:** Senate

Cosponsors (1 total)

| Cosponsor | Party / State | Role | Date Joined |
|-----------------------------------|---------------|------|--------------|
| Sen. Hassan, Margaret Wood [D-NH] | D · NH | | Jul 21, 2020 |

Committee Activity

| Committee | Chamber | Activity | Date |
|-----------------------------|---------|-------------|--------------|
| Veterans' Affairs Committee | Senate | Referred To | Jul 21, 2020 |

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Armed Forces and National Security

Related Bills

| Bill | Relationship | Last Action |
|-------------|--------------|--|
| 116 HR 7727 | Related bill | Oct 6, 2020: Referred to the Subcommittee on Disability Assistance and Memorial Affairs. |

Burial Equity for Guards and Reserves Act

This bill prohibits the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) from establishing a condition for a cemetery grant that restricts the ability of a state to inter certain reservists (or spouses) at a state-owned veterans' cemetery solely because such individuals are ineligible for burial in an open national cemetery.

Specifically, as a condition for grants, the VA cannot restrict the ability of a state to inter a

- member of a reserve component whose service was terminated under honorable conditions;
- member of the Army National Guard or Air National Guard whose service was terminated under honorable conditions;
- member of the Reserve Officers' Training Corps of the Army, Navy, or Air Force who died under honorable conditions while a member; and
- spouse of any member described above.

The VA is prohibited from (1) denying an application for a grant solely on the basis that the recipient state may use funds to expand, improve, operate, or maintain a veterans' cemetery to allow for the internment of the specified reservists; and (2) enforcing certain conditions on grants for state veterans' cemeteries that were established before the date of enactment of this bill.

Actions Timeline

- **Jul 21, 2020:** Introduced in Senate
- **Jul 21, 2020:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.