

## HR 3944

Burial Equity for Guards and Reserves Act of 2021

**Congress:** 117 (2021–2023, Ended)

**Chamber:** House

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

**Introduced:** Jun 16, 2021

**Current Status:** Ordered to be Reported (Amended) by the Yeas and Nays: 17 - 12.

**Latest Action:** Ordered to be Reported (Amended) by the Yeas and Nays: 17 - 12. (Nov 4, 2021)

**Official Text:** <https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/3944>

### Sponsor

**Name:** Rep. Pappas, Chris [D-NH-1]

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

### Cosponsors (22 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Kuster, Ann M. [D-NH-2]	D · NH		Jun 16, 2021
Rep. Palazzo, Steven M. [R-MS-4]	R · MS		Jun 16, 2021
Rep. Craig, Angie [D-MN-2]	D · MN		Aug 27, 2021
Rep. Armstrong, Kelly [R-ND-At Large]	R · ND		Oct 20, 2021
Rep. Ryan, Tim [D-OH-13]	D · OH		Oct 20, 2021
Rep. Blunt Rochester, Lisa [D-DE-At Large]	D · DE		Nov 15, 2021
Rep. LaMalfa, Doug [R-CA-1]	R · CA		Feb 8, 2022
Rep. Malinowski, Tom [D-NJ-7]	D · NJ		Feb 8, 2022
Rep. Napolitano, Grace F. [D-CA-32]	D · CA		Feb 8, 2022
Rep. Omar, Ilhan [D-MN-5]	D · MN		Feb 8, 2022
Rep. Roybal-Allard, Lucille [D-CA-40]	D · CA		Feb 8, 2022
Rep. Thompson, Mike [D-CA-5]	D · CA		Feb 8, 2022
Rep. Bonamici, Suzanne [D-OR-1]	D · OR		Feb 11, 2022
Rep. Larsen, Rick [D-WA-2]	D · WA		Feb 11, 2022
Rep. Titus, Dina [D-NV-1]	D · NV		Feb 11, 2022
Rep. Veasey, Marc A. [D-TX-33]	D · TX		Feb 11, 2022
Rep. Kim, Andy [D-NJ-3]	D · NJ		Feb 28, 2022
Rep. Krishnamoorthi, Raja [D-IL-8]	D · IL		Feb 28, 2022
Rep. Lofgren, Zoe [D-CA-19]	D · CA		Feb 28, 2022
Rep. Stansbury, Melanie Ann [D-NM-1]	D · NM		Feb 28, 2022
Rep. Trone, David J. [D-MD-6]	D · MD		Feb 28, 2022
Rep. Kahele, Kaiiali'i [D-HI-2]	D · HI		Mar 1, 2022

## Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Veterans' Affairs Committee	House	Discharged from	Nov 4, 2021

## Subjects & Policy Tags

### Policy Area:

Armed Forces and National Security

## Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
117 S 2089	Identical bill	<b>Jun 25, 2022:</b> Became Public Law No: 117-158.

## Summary (as of Jun 16, 2021)

### Burial Equity for Guards and Reserves Act of 2021

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 their spouses and children) 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, minor child, or unmarried adult child 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 individuals; and (2) enforcing certain conditions on grants for state veterans' cemeteries that were established before the date of enactment of this bill.

The bill also provides for plot allowances for the individuals listed in the bill.

## Actions Timeline

- **Nov 4, 2021:** Subcommittee on Disability Assistance and Memorial Affairs Discharged.
- **Nov 4, 2021:** Committee Consideration and Mark-up Session Held.
- **Nov 4, 2021:** Ordered to be Reported (Amended) by the Yeas and Nays: 17 - 12.
- **Sep 7, 2021:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Disability Assistance and Memorial Affairs.
- **Jun 16, 2021:** Introduced in House
- **Jun 16, 2021:** Referred to the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs.