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(Original Signature of Member)

119TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R.

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To amend title 36, United States Code, to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to establish a flag for next of kin of veterans who die by suicide.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. BRESNAHAN introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on \_\_\_\_\_

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# A BILL

To amend title 36, United States Code, to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to establish a flag for next of kin of veterans who die by suicide.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Sgt. Walter F. Hart-

5 nett IV Green Star Veterans Service Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. GREEN STAR SERVICE FLAG FOR NEXT OF KIN OF**  
2 **VETERANS DECEASED AS RESULT OF SUI-**  
3 **CIDE.**

4 (a) GREEN STAR SERVICE FLAG.—Chapter 9 of title  
5 36, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end  
6 the following new section:

7 **“§ 905. Green Star Service Flag**

8 “(a) DESIGNATION.—The Secretary of Veterans Af-  
9 fairs shall design and designate a flag as the Green Star  
10 Service Flag to identify next of kin of covered veterans.

11 “(b) INDIVIDUALS ENTITLED TO DISPLAY GREEN  
12 STAR SERVICE FLAG.—An individual who is next of kin  
13 of a covered veteran may display the Green Star Service  
14 Flag.

15 “(c) LICENSE TO MANUFACTURE AND SELL.—Any  
16 person may apply to the Secretary for a license to manu-  
17 facture and sell the designated Green Star Service Flag.  
18 A person that manufactures a Green Star Service Flag  
19 without having first obtained a license or otherwise vio-  
20 lates this section is liable to the United States for a civil  
21 penalty of not more than \$1,000.

22 “(d) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

23 “(1) The term ‘covered veteran’ means a vet-  
24 eran who died—

25 “(A) on or after September 11, 2001; and

26 “(B) as the result of suicide.

1           “(2) The term ‘next of kin’ includes—  
2                   “(A) a family member, as that term is de-  
3           fined in section 1720K of title 38; and  
4                   “(B) any individual specified by the Sec-  
5           retary in regulations prescribed pursuant to this  
6           section.”.

7           (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections  
8           at the beginning of such chapter is amended by adding  
9           at the end the following new item:

          “905. Green Star Service Flag.”.