SEC. 1025. SENSE OF CONGRESS ON THE NAMING OF A NAVAL VESSEL IN HONOR OF SENIOR CHIEF PETTY OFFICER SHANNON KENT.

(a) FINDINGS.—Congress makes the following findings:

(1) Senior Chief Petty Officer Shannon M. Kent grew up in Pine Plains, New York.

(2) Senior Chief Petty Officer Kent enlisted in the United States Navy on December 10, 2003.

(3) Senior Chief Petty Officer Kent served five combat tours throughout 15 years of service in the Navy.

(4) On January 16, 2019, at 35 years of age, Senior Chief Petty Officer Kent was killed in a suicide bombing in Manbij, Syria, while supporting Joint Task Force-Operation Inherent Resolve.

(5) Senior Chief Petty Officer Kent was the recipient of the Bronze Star, the Purple Heart, two Joint Service Commendation Medals, the Navy and
Marine Corps Commendation Medal, the Army Commendation Medal, and the Joint Service Achievement Medal, among other decorations and awards.

(6) Senior Chief Petty Officer Kent was among the first women to deploy with Special Operations Forces and was the first female to graduate from the hard skills program for non-SEALs.

(7) Senior Chief Petty Officer Kent is survived by her husband and two children.

(b) Sense of Congress.—It is the sense of Congress that the Secretary of the Navy should name the next available naval vessel appropriate for such name in honor of Senior Chief Petty Officer Shannon Kent.