

AMENDMENT TO RULES COMMITTEE PRINT 118-

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OFFERED BY MR. SOTO OF FLORIDA

At the end of subtitle I of title V, add the following new section:

1 SEC. 5 ____ . REVIEW OF WORLD WAR II VALOR MEDALS.

2 (a) REVIEW REQUIRED.—Each Secretary concerned
3 shall review the service records of World War II veterans
4 described in subsection (b) under the jurisdiction of such
5 Secretary in order to determine whether any such veteran
6 should be awarded the Medal of Honor for valor during
7 World War II.

8 (b) COVERED WORLD WAR II VETERANS.—The
9 World War II veterans whose service records may be re-
10 viewed under subsection (a) are African American vet-
11 erans, Asian American veterans, Hispanic American vet-
12 erans, Jewish American veterans, and Native American
13 veterans who were recommended for a Medal of Honor for
14 actions that occurred from December 7, 1941, through
15 September 2, 1945, if the Department of Defense pos-
16 sesses or receives records relating to such recommenda-
17 tion.

1 (c) RECOMMENDATION BASED ON REVIEW.—If a
2 Secretary concerned determines, based upon the review
3 under subsection (a), that the award of the Medal of
4 Honor to a covered World War II veteran is warranted,
5 such Secretary shall submit to the President a rec-
6 ommendation that the President award the Medal of
7 Honor to that veteran.

8 (d) AUTHORITY TO AWARD MEDAL OF HONOR.—
9 The Medal of Honor may be awarded to a World War II
10 veteran in accordance with a recommendation of a Sec-
11 retary concerned under subsection (c).

12 (e) WAIVER OF TIME LIMITATIONS.—An award of
13 the Medal of Honor may be made under subsection (d)
14 without regard to—

15 (1) section 7274 or 8298 of title 10, United
16 States Code, as applicable; and

17 (2) any regulation or other administrative re-
18 striction on—

19 (A) the time for awarding the Medal of
20 Honor; or

21 (B) the awarding of the Medal of Honor
22 for service for which a Distinguished Service
23 Cross or Navy Cross has been awarded.

1 (f) DEADLINE.—The review under subsection (a)
2 shall terminate not later than five years after the date of
3 the enactment of this Act.

4 (g) DEFINITIONS.—

5 (1) IN GENERAL.—In this section:

6 (A) AFRICAN AMERICAN VETERAN.—The
7 term “African American veteran” means any
8 person who served in the United States Armed
9 Forces between December 7, 1941, and Sep-
10 tember 2, 1945, and who identified himself as
11 of African descent on his military personnel
12 records.

13 (B) ASIAN AMERICAN WAR VETERAN.—
14 The term “Asian American veteran” means any
15 person who served in the United States Armed
16 Forces between December 7, 1941, and Sep-
17 tember 2, 1945, and who identified himself ra-
18 cially, nationally, or ethnically as originating
19 from a country in Asia on his military per-
20 sonnel records.

21 (C) HISPANIC AMERICAN WAR VETERAN.—
22 The term “Hispanic American veteran” means
23 any person who served in the United States
24 Armed Forces between December 7, 1941, and
25 September 2, 1945, and who identified himself

1 racially, nationally, or ethnically as originating
2 from a country where Spanish is an official lan-
3 guage on his military personnel records.

4 (D) JEWISH AMERICAN WAR VETERAN.—
5 The term “Jewish American veteran” mean any
6 person who served in the United States Armed
7 Forces between December 7, 1941, and Sep-
8 tember 2, 1945, and who identified himself as
9 Jewish on his military personnel records.

10 (E) NATIVE AMERICAN WAR VETERAN.—
11 The term “Native American veteran” means
12 any person who served in the United States
13 Armed Forces between December 7, 1941, and
14 September 2, 1945, and who identified himself
15 as a member of a federally recognized tribe
16 within the modern territory of the United
17 States on his military personnel records.

18 (F) SECRETARY CONCERNED.—The term
19 “Secretary concerned” means—

20 (i) the Secretary of the Army, in the
21 case of members of the Armed Forces who
22 served in the Army between December 7,
23 1941, and September 2, 1945; and

24 (ii) the Secretary of the Navy, in the
25 case of members of the Armed Forces who

1 served in the Navy or the Marine Corps
2 between December 7, 1941, and September
3 2, 1945.

4 (2) APPLICATION OF DEFINITIONS OF ORI-
5 GIN.—If the military personnel records of a person
6 do not reflect the person’s membership in one of the
7 groups identified in subparagraphs (B) through (F)
8 of paragraph (1) but historical evidence exists that
9 demonstrates the person’s Jewish faith held at the
10 time of service, or that the person identified himself
11 as of African, Asian, Hispanic, or Native American
12 descent, the person may be treated as being a mem-
13 ber of the applicable group by the Secretary con-
14 cerned for purposes of this section.

