

111TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 174

To direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to establish a national cemetery for veterans in the southern Colorado region.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 6, 2009

Mr. SALAZAR (for himself and Mr. LAMBORN) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

A BILL

To direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to establish a national cemetery for veterans in the southern Colorado region.

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. ESTABLISHMENT OF NATIONAL CEMETERY IN**
4 **SOUTHERN COLORADO REGION.**

5 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Veterans Affairs
6 shall establish, in accordance with chapter 24 of title 38,
7 United States Code, a national cemetery in El Paso Coun-

1 ty, Colorado, to serve the needs of veterans and their fami-
2 lies in the southern Colorado region.

3 (b) CONSULTATION IN SELECTION OF SITE.—Before
4 selecting the site for the national cemetery established
5 under subsection (a), the Secretary shall consult with—

6 (1) appropriate officials of the State of Colo-
7 rado and local officials in the southern Colorado re-
8 gion; and

9 (2) appropriate officials of the United States,
10 including the Administrator of General Services,
11 with respect to land belonging to the United States
12 in El Paso County, Colorado, that would be suitable
13 to establish the national cemetery under subsection
14 (a).

15 (c) AUTHORITY TO ACCEPT DONATION OF PARCEL
16 OF LAND.—

17 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Veterans
18 Affairs may accept on behalf of the United States
19 the gift of an appropriate parcel of real property.
20 The Secretary shall have administrative jurisdiction
21 over such parcel of real property, and shall use such
22 parcel to establish the national cemetery under sub-
23 section (a).

24 (2) INCOME TAX TREATMENT OF GIFT.—For
25 purposes of Federal income, estate, and gift taxes,

1 the real property accepted under paragraph (1) shall
2 be considered as a gift to the United States.

3 (d) REPORT.—As soon as practicable after the date
4 of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall submit
5 to Congress a report on the establishment of the national
6 cemetery under subsection (a). The report shall set forth
7 a schedule for such establishment and an estimate of the
8 costs associated with such establishment.

9 (e) RELATIONSHIP TO CONSTRUCTION AND FIVE
10 YEAR CAPITAL PLAN.—The requirement to establish a
11 national cemetery under subsection (a) shall be added to
12 the current list of priority projects, but should not take
13 priority over existing projects listed on the National Ceme-
14 tery Administration’s construction and five-year capital
15 plan for fiscal year 2008.

16 (f) SOUTHERN COLORADO REGION DEFINED.—In
17 this Act, the term “southern Colorado region” means the
18 geographic region consisting of the following Colorado
19 counties:

- 20 (1) El Paso.
- 21 (2) Pueblo.
- 22 (3) Teller.
- 23 (4) Fremont.
- 24 (5) Las Animas.
- 25 (6) Huerfano.

- 1 (7) Custer.
- 2 (8) Costilla.
- 3 (9) Alamosa.
- 4 (10) Saguache.
- 5 (11) Conejos.
- 6 (12) Mineral.
- 7 (13) Archuleta.
- 8 (14) Hinsdale.
- 9 (15) Gunnison.
- 10 (16) Pitkin.
- 11 (17) La Plata.
- 12 (18) Montezuma.
- 13 (19) San Juan.
- 14 (20) Ouray.
- 15 (21) San Miguel.
- 16 (22) Dolores.
- 17 (23) Montrose.
- 18 (24) Delta.
- 19 (25) Mesa.
- 20 (26) Crowley.
- 21 (27) Kiowa.
- 22 (28) Bent.
- 23 (29) Baca.

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