

118TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 6406

To amend title 10, United States Code, to establish the Last Servicemember Standing Medal.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NOVEMBER 14, 2023

Ms. KAPTUR (for herself and Mr. CARTER of Texas) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Armed Services

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## A BILL

To amend title 10, United States Code, to establish the Last Servicemember Standing Medal.

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 “Last Servicemember  
5 Standing Medal Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. AUTHORIZATION FOR LAST SERVICEMEMBER**  
7 **STANDING MEDAL.**

8 (a) AUTHORIZATION.—Chapter 57 of title 10, United  
9 States Code, is amended—

1           (1) by redesignating sections 1135 and 1136 as  
2           sections 1136 and section 1137, respectively; and

3           (2) by inserting after section 1134 the following  
4           new section:

5   **“§ 1135. Last Servicemember Standing medal**

6           “(a) MEDAL AUTHORIZED.—The Secretary con-  
7           cerned may issue a service medal, to be known as the ‘Last  
8           Servicemember Standing medal’, to persons eligible under  
9           subsection (c).

10          “(b) DESIGN.—The Last Servicemember Standing  
11          medal shall be of an appropriate design approved by the  
12          Secretary of Defense, with ribbons, lapel pins, and other  
13          appurtenances.

14          “(c) ELIGIBLE PERSONS.—Subject to subsection (d),  
15          a person eligible to be issued the Last Servicemember  
16          Standing medal is any member who—

17                  “(1) served on active duty;

18                  “(2) was deployed during war or overseas con-  
19                  tingency operation;

20                  “(3) as a result of a combat instance during  
21                  such war or overseas contingency, was the last sur-  
22                  viving member of a unit;

23                  “(4) demonstrated extraordinary heroism in de-  
24                  fense of the United States during such combat in-  
25                  stance; and

1           “(5) whose character is recommended for rec-  
2           ognition by their commanding officer and at least  
3           two peers.

4           “(d) ONE MEDAL AUTHORIZED.—Not more than one  
5           Last Servicemember Standing medal may be issued to any  
6           person.

7           “(e) ISSUANCE TO NEXT-OF-KIN.—If a person de-  
8           scribed in subsection (c) is deceased, the Secretary con-  
9           cerned may provide for issuance of the Last Servicemem-  
10          ber Standing medal to the next-of-kin of the person.

11          “(f) REGULATIONS.—The issuance of a Last Service-  
12          member Standing medal shall be subject to such regula-  
13          tions as the Secretaries concerned shall prescribe for pur-  
14          poses of this section. The Secretary of Defense shall en-  
15          sure that any regulations prescribed under this subsection  
16          are uniform to the extent practicable.”.

17          (b) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Con-  
18          gress that the Secretary of Defense should take appro-  
19          priate actions to expedite—

20                 (1) the design of the Last Servicemember  
21                 Standing medal provided for by section 1136 of title  
22                 10, United States Code, as added by subsection (a);  
23                 and

24                 (2) the establishment and implementation of  
25                 mechanisms to facilitate the issuance of the Last

- 1 Servicemember Standing Medal to persons eligible
- 2 for the issuance of the medal under such section.

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