

Bill H.R. 2369 Honor Our Fallen Prisoners of War Act

Official Title: To amend title 10, United States Code, to provide for the Purple Heart to be awarded to prisoners of war who die in captivity under circumstances not otherwise establishing eligibility for the Purple Heart.

Status: Introduced (By Rep. Bob Filner [D-CA])

This bill is in the first step in the legislative process. Introduced House bills go first to House committees that consider whether the bill should be presented to the House as a whole. The majority of bills never make it out of committee.

Introduced 16 May 2005 Referred to the House Committee on Armed Forces

Sponsor Rep Bob Filner (D-CA) 217 cosponsors

S 2157

Official Title: A bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to provide for the Purple Heart to be awarded to prisoners of war who die in captivity under circumstances not otherwise establishing eligibility for the Purple Heart.

Status: Introduced (By Sen. Barbara Boxer [D-CA])

This bill is in the first step in the legislative process. Introduced Senate bills go first to Senate committees that consider whether the bill should be presented to the Senate as a whole. The majority of bills never make it out of committee.

Last Action: Dec 21 2005 Read and referred to the Committee on Armed Services.

Sponsor Barbara Boxer (D-CA)

Cosponsors: Sen. Jeff Bingaman [D-NM], Sen. Conrad Burns [R-MT], Sen. Michael DeWine [R-OH]

Sen. Judd Gregg [R-NH], Sen. Tim Johnson [D-SD], Sen. Frank Lautenberg [D-NJ]

Sen. Joseph Lieberman [D-CT], Sen. Blanche Lincoln [D-AR], Sen. Robert Menéndez [D-NJ],

Sen. Mark Pryor [D-AR], Sen. John Rockefeller [D-WV], and Sen. Olympia Snowe [R-ME]

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Rep Bob Filner

Honoring Our Fallen Heroes

In a press conference on November 4th, I announced a major endorsement by the Military Order of the Purple Heart of my bill H.R. 2369, the "Honor our Fallen Heroes Act." The MOPH joins other important veterans organizations in supporting this legislation – the American Ex-Prisoners of War, the Tiger Survivors, and the Korean War Veterans Association.

The "Honor our Fallen Heroes Act" will award the Purple Heart posthumously to all Prisoners

of War who died while in captivity, no matter the cause. Currently, only those members of the Armed Forces who are killed in action or die of wounds received in action are eligible for this honor. I believe that all Prisoners of War who die in captivity, of torture, freezing, starvation and other causes, deserve the respect and honor that the Purple Heart bestows. I am very honored that the MOPH has endorsed my bill.

Hot Bill: H.R. 2369, Honor Our Fallen Prisoners of War Act

This month, I joined with Senator Barbara Boxer to honor members of our Armed Forces who died while in captivity as a Prisoner of War (POW). Senator Boxer has introduced a Senate version of my bill, [the Honor Our Fallen Prisoners of War Act](#), which awards the Purple Heart posthumously to all POWs who die in captivity.

Currently, Prisoners of War who die during their imprisonment of wounds inflicted in war are eligible for posthumous Purple Heart recognition. However, those who die of starvation, beatings, freezing or other causes are not eligible for this highest of honors for our Armed Forces.

All POWs who die in service to our nation should be eligible for Purple Heart recognition. Our bills, H.R. 2369 and S. 2157, will allow all members of our Armed Forces who die while a Prisoner of War, regardless of the cause of death, to be awarded the Purple Heart posthumously.

I am proud to say that over 175, bi-partisan Members of the House of Representatives are supporting my bill.