

116TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 2651

To amend title 38, United States Code, to authorize the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to provide inscriptions for spouses and children on certain headstones and markers furnished by the Secretary, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

OCTOBER 21, 2019

Ms. SINEMA (for herself and Mr. BOOZMAN) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs

A BILL

To amend title 38, United States Code, to authorize the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to provide inscriptions for spouses and children on certain headstones and markers furnished by the Secretary, and for other purposes.

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 “Honoring Veterans’
5 Families Act of 2019”.

1 **SEC. 2. PROVISION OF INSCRIPTIONS FOR SPOUSES AND**
2 **CHILDREN ON CERTAIN HEADSTONES AND**
3 **MARKERS FURNISHED BY THE SECRETARY**
4 **OF VETERANS AFFAIRS.**

5 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 2306 of title 38, United
6 States Code, is amended by adding at the end the fol-
7 lowing new subsection:

8 “(i)(1) In the case of an individual for whom the Sec-
9 retary has furnished a headstone or marker for the un-
10 marked grave of the individual in a non-Department ceme-
11 tery under subsection (a) or for whom the Secretary has
12 furnished a headstone or marker under subsection (d), the
13 Secretary may, if feasible and upon request, replace the
14 headstone or marker to add an inscription for the sur-
15 viving spouse or eligible dependent child of such individual
16 following the death of the surviving spouse or eligible de-
17 pendent child.

18 “(2) If the spouse or eligible dependent child of an
19 individual referred to in paragraph (1) predeceases the in-
20 dividual, the Secretary may, if feasible and upon request,
21 include an inscription for the spouse or dependent child
22 on the headstone or marker furnished for the individual
23 under subsection (a) or (d).

24 “(3) In this section, the term ‘non-Department ceme-
25 tery’ means—

26 “(A) a veterans’ cemetery owned by a State; or

1 “(B) a State, local, tribal, or private ceme-
2 tery.”.

3 (b) **EFFECTIVE DATE.**—Subsection (i) of section
4 2306 of title 38, United States Code, as added by sub-
5 section (a) shall apply with respect to an individual who
6 dies on or after October 1, 2018.

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