

116TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 7578

To award a Congressional Gold Medal to Lieutenant Colonel Alexander Vindman, in recognition of his service to the United States and his courage to testify in the impeachment inquiry of President Donald J. Trump.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 13, 2020

Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Financial Services, and in addition to the Committee on the Budget, 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 award a Congressional Gold Medal to Lieutenant Colonel Alexander Vindman, in recognition of his service to the United States and his courage to testify in the impeachment inquiry of President Donald J. Trump.

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 “Lieutenant Colonel
5 Alexander Vindman Congressional Gold Medal Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

2 Congress finds the following:

3 (1) On December 19, 2019, the House of Rep-
4 resentatives passed two articles of impeachment
5 against President Donald J. Trump for abuse of
6 power and obstruction of Congress.

7 (2) Numerous public servants provided testi-
8 mony to support the impeachment inquiry, including
9 Lieutenant Colonel Alexander Vindman, a decorated
10 veteran who was on the call between President
11 Trump and Ukraine President Volodymyr Zelensky
12 on July 25, 2019, which served as the basis for the
13 impeachment inquiry.

14 (3) Lieutenant Colonel Vindman served mul-
15 tiple tours of combat duty and was wounded during
16 a tour in Iraq, for which he received a Purple Heart
17 medal.

18 (4) Lieutenant Colonel Vindman, despite
19 threats to his family and his career, testified to the
20 following on October 28, 2019:

21 (A) The July 25th call was “improper”
22 and “unusual”.

23 (B) Lieutenant Colonel Vindman was con-
24 cerned by the call: “I did not think it was prop-
25 er to demand that a foreign government inves-
26 tigate a U.S. citizen, and I was worried about

1 the implications for six of the U.S. Govern-
2 ment's support of Ukraine. I realized that if
3 Ukraine pursued an investigation into the
4 Bidens and Burisma, it would likely be inter-
5 preted as a partisan play which would undoubt-
6 edly result in Ukraine losing the bipartisan sup-
7 port it has thus far maintained. This would all
8 undermine U.S. national security.”.

9 (5) Lieutenant Colonel Vindman further stated:
10 “Dad, I’m sitting here today in the U.S. Capitol
11 talking to our elected professionals is proof that you
12 made the right decision 40 years ago to leave the
13 Soviet Union and come here to the United States of
14 America in search of a better life for our family.”,
15 Vindman said: “Do not worry. I will be fine for tell-
16 ing the truth.”.

17 (6) Lieutenant Colonel Vindman faced unsub-
18 substantiated claims questioning his loyalty to the
19 United States because he was born in Ukraine and
20 other forms of retribution.

21 (7) On February 7, 2019, Lieutenant Colonel
22 Vindman was reassigned from his duties as Director
23 for European Affairs at the National Security Coun-
24 cil. He was escorted from the White House by secu-
25 rity.

1 (8) President Trump stated on February 7,
2 2019: “Well, I’m not happy with him [Vindman].
3 You think I’m supposed to be happy with him? I’m
4 not.” He further accused Lieutenant Colonel
5 Vindman of being “insubordinate” for testifying
6 against the President truthfully.

7 **SEC. 3. SENSE OF CONGRESS.**

8 It is the sense of Congress that Lieutenant Colonel
9 Vindman—

10 (1) is a patriot who defended American ideals
11 on the battlefield and in the impeachment inquiry by
12 telling the truth;

13 (2) faced retribution from the President of the
14 United States as a result of his testimony in the im-
15 peachment inquiry; and

16 (3) upholds the highest values of the United
17 States and should be honored for his actions.

18 **SEC. 4. CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDAL.**

19 (a) PRESENTATION AUTHORIZED.—The Speaker of
20 the House of Representatives and the President pro tem-
21 pore of the Senate shall make appropriate arrangements
22 for the presentation, on behalf of Congress, of a gold
23 medal of appropriate design to Lieutenant Colonel Alex-
24 ander Vindman, in recognition of his service to the United

1 States and his courage to testify in the impeachment in-
2 quiry of President Donald J. Trump.

3 (b) DESIGN AND STRIKING.—For purposes of the
4 presentation referred to in subsection (a), the Secretary
5 of the Treasury (referred to in this Act as the “Sec-
6 retary”) shall strike a gold medal with suitable emblems,
7 devices, and inscriptions, to be determined by the Sec-
8 retary.

9 **SEC. 5. DUPLICATE MEDALS.**

10 The Secretary may strike and sell duplicates in
11 bronze of the gold medal struck pursuant to section 4
12 under such regulations as the Secretary may prescribe, at
13 a price sufficient to cover the cost thereof, including labor,
14 materials, dies, use of machinery, and overhead expenses,
15 and the cost of the gold medal.

16 **SEC. 6. STATUS OF MEDALS.**

17 (a) NATIONAL MEDALS.—The medals struck pursu-
18 ant to this Act are national medals for purposes of chapter
19 51 of title 31, United States Code.

20 (b) NUMISMATIC ITEMS.—For purposes of sections
21 5134 and 5136 of title 31, United States Code, all medals
22 struck under this Act shall be considered to be numismatic
23 items.

1 **SEC. 7. DETERMINATION OF BUDGETARY EFFECTS.**

2 The budgetary effects of this Act, for the purpose of
3 complying with the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010,
4 shall be determined by reference to the latest statement
5 titled “Budgetary Effects of PAYGO Legislation” for this
6 Act, submitted for printing in the Congressional Record
7 by the Chairman of the House Budget Committee, pro-
8 vided that such statement has been submitted prior to the
9 vote on passage.

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