

107TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 3392

To name the national cemetery in Saratoga, New York, as the Gerald B.H. Solomon Saratoga National Cemetery, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

DECEMBER 4, 2001

Mr. HASTERT (for himself, Mr. ACKERMAN, Mr. ARMEY, Mr. BOEHLERT, Mr. CROWLEY, Mr. DIAZ-BALART, Mr. DREIER, Mr. ENGEL, Mr. EVANS, Mr. FOSSELLA, Mr. FROST, Mr. GILMAN, Mr. GOSS, Mr. GRUCCI, Mr. HALL of Ohio, Mr. HASTINGS of Florida, Mr. HASTINGS of Washington, Mr. HINCHEY, Mr. HOUGHTON, Mr. ISRAEL, Mrs. KELLY, Mr. KING, Mr. LAFALCE, Mr. LINDER, Mrs. LOWEY, Mrs. MALONEY of New York, Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York, Mr. MCHUGH, Mr. McNULTY, Mr. MEEKS of New York, Mrs. MYRICK, Mr. NADLER, Mr. OWENS, Ms. PRYCE of Ohio, Mr. QUINN, Mr. RANGEL, Mr. REYNOLDS, Mr. SERRANO, Mr. SESSIONS, Ms. SLAUGHTER, Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, Mr. SWEENEY, Mr. TOWNS, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Mr. WALSH, and Mr. WEINER) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs

DECEMBER 4, 2001

Committee on Veterans' Affairs discharged; considered under suspension of the rules and passed

A BILL

To name the national cemetery in Saratoga, New York, as the Gerald B.H. Solomon Saratoga National Cemetery, 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,*

1 **SECTION 1. FINDINGS.**

2 The Congress finds the following:

3 (1) Gerald Brooks Hunt “Jerry” Solomon of
4 Glens Falls, New York, served in the House of Rep-
5 resentatives for 10 terms, from January 3, 1979, to
6 January 3, 1999, and during that service gained a
7 reputation for being outspoken and tenacious in pre-
8 senting his views on a wide range of issues.

9 (2) Congressman Solomon was born in Okee-
10 chobee, Florida, and grew up there during the Great
11 Depression before moving to New York in 1945.

12 (3) Congressman Solomon enlisted in the
13 United States Marine Corps at the onset of the Ko-
14 rean War and served in the Marine Corps for 8½
15 years on active and reserve duty.

16 (4) Before being elected to Congress in 1978,
17 Congressman Solomon was a businessman in Glens
18 Falls, New York.

19 (5) During his 20-year congressional career,
20 Congressman Solomon served as the ranking Repub-
21 lican on the Committee on Veterans’ Affairs, where
22 he was recognized by the veterans community as one
23 of its strongest advocates. Among his other accom-
24 plishments for veterans, Congressman Solomon
25 spearheaded the effort to create the Cabinet-level
26 Department of Veterans Affairs and successfully led

1 a 15-year drive to establish the Saratoga National
2 Cemetery in Saratoga, New York, where he is now
3 interred.

4 (6) Congressman Solomon was also recognized
5 for his efforts to promote pride, patriotism, and vol-
6 unteerism, and when the Supreme Court ruled that
7 laws prohibiting the burning of the United States
8 flag were unconstitutional, Congressman Solomon
9 was given the assignment to pass a constitutional
10 amendment to prohibit desecration of the flag. The
11 Solomon Amendment passed overwhelmingly in the
12 House, but failed by one vote in the Senate.

13 (7) As chairman of the Committee on Rules of
14 the House of Representatives, Congressman Sol-
15 omon revamped the rules under which the House op-
16 erates, abolishing proxy voting, opening all meetings
17 to the media and the public, and making Congress
18 subject to the same laws that the American people
19 live under.

20 (8) During his congressional career, Congress-
21 man Solomon was the recipient of dozens of major
22 awards from many national veterans organizations,
23 including the coveted “Iron Mike Award”, presented
24 to him by the Marine Corps and Marine Corps
25 League, and the Distinguished Citizen Award, pre-

1 sented to him by the National Congressional Medal
2 of Honor Society for his legislative successes on be-
3 half of the United States military and veterans
4 issues.

5 **SEC. 2. NAME OF THE NATIONAL CEMETERY IN SARATOGA,**
6 **NEW YORK.**

7 (a) NAME.—The national cemetery located in Sara-
8 toga, New York, shall after the date of the enactment of
9 this Act be known and designated as the “Gerald B.H.
10 Solomon Saratoga National Cemetery”. Any reference to
11 such national cemetery in any law, regulation, map, docu-
12 ment, record, or other paper of the United States shall
13 be considered to be a reference to the Gerald B.H. Sol-
14 omon Saratoga National Cemetery.

15 (b) MEMORIAL.—The Secretary of Veterans Affairs
16 shall provide for the placement in the national cemetery
17 referred to in subsection (a) of a suitable memorial to
18 honor the memory of Gerald B.H. Solomon and his service
19 to the United States.

○