

109TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# H. R. 5499

To amend title 38, United States Code, to expand and make permanent the Department of Veterans Affairs benefit for Government markers for marked graves of veterans buried in private cemeteries, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 25, 2006

Mrs. JOHNSON of Connecticut introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs

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## A BILL

To amend title 38, United States Code, to expand and make permanent the Department of Veterans Affairs benefit for Government markers for marked graves of veterans buried in private cemeteries, 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. PERMANENCE AND EXPANSION OF DEPART-**  
2 **MENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS BENEFIT FOR**  
3 **GOVERNMENT MARKERS FOR MARKED**  
4 **GRAVES OF VETERANS BURIED IN PRIVATE**  
5 **CEMETERIES.**

6 (a) PERMANENCY OF PROGRAM.—Subsection (d) of  
7 section 2306 of title 38, United States Code is amended  
8 by striking paragraphs (3) and (4).

9 (b) EXPANSION OF BENEFIT.—Such subsection, as  
10 amended by subsection (a), is further amended—

11 (1) by striking “marker” each place it appears  
12 and inserting “headstone or marker”;

13 (2) in paragraph (2), by inserting “or to a rep-  
14 resentative of such cemetery” after “located”; and

15 (3) by adding at the end the following new  
16 paragraph (3):

17 “(3) In the case of a grave for which a headstone  
18 or marker is requested that is marked by a headstone or  
19 marker furnished at private expense, the Government  
20 headstone or marker may be furnished if the individual  
21 making the request for the Government headstone or  
22 marker certifies to the Secretary that the headstone or  
23 marker will be placed as close as practicable to that  
24 grave.”.

25 (c) APPLICATION OF GOVERNMENT MARKER BEN-  
26 EFIT TO VETERANS DYING ON OR AFTER NOVEMBER 1,

1 1990.—Subsection (d) of section 502 of the Veterans  
2 Education and Benefits Expansion Act of 2001 (Public  
3 Law 107–103; 38 U.S.C. 2306 note) is amended by strik-  
4 ing “September 11, 2001” and inserting “November 1,  
5 1990”.

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