

110TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 1390

To provide for the issuance of a “forever stamp” to honor the sacrifices of the brave men and women of the armed forces who have been awarded the Purple Heart.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MAY 15, 2007

Mrs. CLINTON (for herself, Mr. VITTER, Mr. BROWN, and Mrs. DOLE) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

A BILL

To provide for the issuance of a “forever stamp” to honor the sacrifices of the brave men and women of the armed forces who have been awarded the Purple Heart.

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 “Perpetual Purple
5 Heart Stamp Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 The Congress finds that—

8 (1) the Purple Heart is the oldest military deco-
9 ration in the world still in use;

1 (2) the Purple Heart was first established by
2 General George Washington on August 7, 1782, as
3 the Honorary Badge of Distinction, otherwise known
4 as the Badge of Military Merit or Decoration of the
5 Purple Heart;

6 (3) the Purple Heart is awarded in the name of
7 the President of the United States and may, among
8 others, be awarded—

9 (A) to any member of the armed forces
10 who is wounded in an action against or held
11 prisoner of war by an enemy of the United
12 States; or

13 (B) posthumously to the next of kin of any
14 person who is a member of the armed forces at
15 the time the person is killed or wounded under
16 circumstances otherwise qualifying that person
17 for award of the Purple Heart;

18 (4) more than 1,700,000 Americans have been
19 awarded the Purple Heart; and

20 (5) the Purple Heart postage stamp, first
21 issued by the United States Postal Service on May
22 30, 2003, honors the sacrifices of the brave men and
23 women of the armed forces who have been awarded
24 the Purple Heart.

1 **SEC. 3. PERPETUAL PURPLE HEART STAMP.**

2 (a) IN GENERAL.—In order to continue to honor the
3 sacrifices of the brave men and women of the armed forces
4 who have been awarded the Purple Heart, the Postmaster
5 General shall provide for the issuance of a forever stamp
6 suitable for that purpose.

7 (b) DEFINITION.—For purposes of this Act, the term
8 “forever stamp” means a definitive stamp which meets the
9 postage required for first-class mail up to one ounce in
10 weight, and which retains full validity for that purpose
11 even if the rate of that postage is later increased.

12 (c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The stamp described in sub-
13 section (a) shall be issued beginning as soon as practicable
14 after the date of the enactment of this Act and shall not
15 thereafter be discontinued.

○