

115TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 544

To amend title 18, United States Code, to provide for penalties for the sale of any Purple Heart awarded to a member of the Armed Forces.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 13, 2017

Mr. COOK (for himself, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, Ms. JUDY CHU of California, Ms. JENKINS of Kansas, Mr. POLIQUIN, and Mr. DUNN) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

A BILL

To amend title 18, United States Code, to provide for penalties for the sale of any Purple Heart awarded to a member of the Armed Forces.

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 “Private Corrado Piccoli
5 Purple Heart Preservation Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 Congress finds the following:

8 (1) The Purple Heart medal solemnly recog-
9 nizes the great and sometimes ultimate sacrifice of

1 American servicemembers like Private Corrado
2 Piccoli.

3 (2) The Purple Heart medal holds a place of
4 honor as the national symbol of this sacrifice and
5 deserves special protections.

6 **SEC. 3. PENALTY FOR SALE OF PURPLE HEARTS AWARDED**
7 **TO MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES.**

8 Subsection (a) of section 704 of title 18, United
9 States Code, is amended to read as follows:

10 “(a) IN GENERAL.—

11 “(1) PENALTY.—Whoever knowingly purchases,
12 attempts to purchase, solicits for purchase, mails,
13 ships, imports, exports, produces blank certificates
14 of receipt for, manufactures, sells, attempts to sell,
15 advertises for sale, trades, barters, or exchanges for
16 anything of value any decoration or medal author-
17 ized by Congress for the armed forces of the United
18 States, or any of the service medals or badges
19 awarded to the members of such forces, or the rib-
20 bon, button, or rosette of any such badge, decoration
21 or medal, or any colorable imitation thereof, except
22 when authorized under regulations made pursuant to
23 law, shall be fined under this title or imprisoned not
24 more than six months, or both.

1 “(2) LIMITATION ON REGULATIONS.—Regula-
2 tions referred to in paragraph (1) may not authorize
3 the sale of any Purple Heart awarded to a member
4 of the armed forces or former member of the armed
5 forces by the Secretary of the military department
6 concerned.”.

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