

117TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 6722

To designate the Department of Veterans Affairs community-based outpatient clinic in French Camp, California, as the “Richard A. Pittman VA Clinic”.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 15, 2022

Mr. MCNERNEY (for himself and Mr. HARDER of California) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Veterans’ Affairs

A BILL

To designate the Department of Veterans Affairs community-based outpatient clinic in French Camp, California, as the “Richard A. Pittman VA Clinic”.

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. FINDINGS.**

4 Congress finds the following:

5 (1) Richard A. Pittman was born on May 26,
6 1945, in French Camp, California.

7 (2) Richard A. Pittman enlisted in the Marine
8 Corps in 1965 and was later promoted to Lance
9 Corporal.

1 (3) On July 24, 1966, Lance Corporal Pitt-
2 man's unit, First Platoon, Company I, Third Bat-
3 talion, Fifth Marines, was moving along a trail near
4 the Demilitarized Zone in the Republic of Vietnam
5 when the Marines ahead of them came under attack.

6 (4) Upon hearing the attack, Lance Corporal
7 Pittman took a machine gun and several belts of
8 ammunition and rushed to aid his comrades. As he
9 advanced, Lance Corporal Pittman encountered in-
10 tense small-arms fire at point-blank range. He was
11 able to return fire and silence the enemy combat-
12 ants. Continuing towards the attacked Marines,
13 Lance Corporal Pittman came under heavy fire from
14 two automatic weapons, which he was able to de-
15 stroy.

16 (5) When Lance Corporal Pittman learned
17 there were additional wounded Marines further
18 along the trail, he endured enemy mortar and gun-
19 fire to get to them. As he reached them, he faced
20 an attack by 30 to 40 enemy fighters.

21 (6) Lance Corporal Pittman used a combination
22 of machine-gun fire, an enemy submachine gun, a
23 pistol from a fallen comrade, and a grenade to cause
24 enemy forces to withdraw. Due to his courageous ac-
25 tions, many of his wounded comrades were saved.

1 (7) In recognition of his bravery that day, Rich-
2 ard A. Pittman, who was then a Sergeant, was
3 awarded the Medal of Honor by President Lyndon
4 B. Johnson on May 14, 1968.

5 (8) Richard A. Pittman retired in 1988 as a
6 Master Sergeant, after having served in the Marine
7 Corps for more than two decades.

8 **SEC. 2. NAME OF DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS**
9 **COMMUNITY-BASED OUTPATIENT CLINIC,**
10 **FRENCH CAMP, CALIFORNIA.**

11 (a) DESIGNATION.—The Department of Veterans Af-
12 fairs community-based outpatient clinic in French Camp,
13 California, shall after the date of the enactment of this
14 Act be known and designated as the “Richard A. Pittman
15 VA Clinic”.

16 (b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, reg-
17 ulation, document, paper, or other record of the United
18 States to the clinic referred to in subsection (a) shall be
19 deemed to be a reference to the “Richard A. Pittman VA
20 Clinic”.

○