

105TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 1903

To prohibit the return of veterans memorial objects to foreign nations without specific authorization in law.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

APRIL 1, 1998

Mr. THOMAS (for himself, Mr. ENZI, Mr. THURMOND, Mr. HELMS, Mr. HAGEL, and Mr. SMITH of Oregon) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs

A BILL

To prohibit the return of veterans memorial objects to foreign nations without specific authorization in law.

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. PROHIBITION ON RETURN OF VETERANS ME-**
4 **MORIAL OBJECTS WITHOUT SPECIFIC AU-**
5 **THORIZATION IN LAW.**

6 (a) PROHIBITION.—Notwithstanding any other provi-
7 sion of law, the President may not transfer a veterans me-
8 morial object to a foreign country or entity controlled by
9 a foreign government, or otherwise transfer or convey such
10 object to a person or entity for purposes of the ultimate

1 transfer or conveyance of such object to a foreign country
2 or entity controlled by a foreign government, unless spe-
3 cifically authorized by law.

4 (b) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

5 (1) ENTITY CONTROLLED BY A FOREIGN GOV-
6 ERNMENT.—The term “entity controlled by a for-
7 eign government” has the meaning given that term
8 in section 2536(c)(1) of title 10, United States
9 Code.

10 (2) VETERANS MEMORIAL OBJECT.—The term
11 “veterans memorial object” means any object, in-
12 cluding a physical structure or portion thereof,
13 that—

14 (A) is located at a cemetery of the Na-
15 tional Cemetery System, war memorial, or mili-
16 tary installation in the United States;

17 (B) is dedicated to, or otherwise memorial-
18 izes, the death in combat or combat-related du-
19 ties of members of the United States Armed
20 Forces; and

21 (C) was brought to the United States from
22 abroad as a memorial of combat abroad.

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