

107TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 1814

To name the national cemetery in Saratoga, New York, as the Gerald B.H. Solomon Saratoga National Cemetery, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

DECEMBER 12, 2001

Mr. SCHUMER (for himself and Mrs. CLINTON) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs

A BILL

To name the national cemetery in Saratoga, New York, as the Gerald B.H. Solomon Saratoga National Cemetery, 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,*

3 **SECTION 1. FINDINGS.**

4 The Congress finds the following:

5 (1) Gerald Brooks Hunt “Jerry” Solomon of
6 Glens Falls, New York, served in the House of Rep-
7 resentatives for 10 terms, from January 3, 1979, to
8 January 3, 1999, and during that service gained a
9 reputation for being outspoken and tenacious in pre-
10 sented his views on a wide range of issues.

1 (2) Congressman Solomon was born in Okeechobee, Florida, and grew up there during the Great
2 Depression before moving to New York in 1945.

3 (3) Congressman Solomon enlisted in the
4 United States Marine Corps at the onset of the Ko-
5 rean War and served in the Marine Corps for 8½
6 years on active and reserve duty.

7 (4) Before being elected to Congress in 1978,
8 Congressman Solomon was a businessman in Glens
9 Falls, New York.

10 (5) During his 20-year congressional career,
11 Congressman Solomon served as the ranking Repub-
12 lican on the Committee on Veterans' Affairs, where
13 he was recognized by the veterans community as one
14 of its strongest advocates. Among his other accom-
15 plishments for veterans, Congressman Solomon
16 spearheaded the effort to create the Cabinet-level
17 Department of Veterans Affairs and successfully led
18 a 15-year drive to establish the Saratoga National
19 Cemetery in Saratoga, New York, where he is now
20 interred.

21 (6) Congressman Solomon was also recognized
22 for his efforts to promote pride, patriotism, and vol-
23 unteerism, and when the Supreme Court ruled that
24 laws prohibiting the burning of the United States
25 laws prohibiting the burning of the United States

1 flag were unconstitutional, Congressman Solomon
2 was given the assignment to pass a constitutional
3 amendment to prohibit desecration of the flag. The
4 Solomon Amendment passed overwhelmingly in the
5 House, but failed by one vote in the Senate.

6 (7) As chairman of the Committee on Rules of
7 the House of Representatives, Congressman Sol-
8 omon revamped the rules under which the House op-
9 erates, abolishing proxy voting, opening all meetings
10 to the media and the public, and making Congress
11 subject to the same laws that the American people
12 live under.

13 (8) During his congressional career, Congress-
14 man Solomon was the recipient of dozens of major
15 awards from many national veterans organizations,
16 including the coveted “Iron Mike Award”, presented
17 to him by the Marine Corps and Marine Corps
18 League, and the Distinguished Citizen Award, pre-
19 sented to him by the National Congressional Medal
20 of Honor Society for his legislative successes on be-
21 half of the United States military and veterans
22 issues.

1 **SEC. 2. NAME OF THE NATIONAL CEMETERY IN SARATOGA,**
2 **NEW YORK.**

3 (a) NAME.—The national cemetery located in Sara-
4 toga, New York, shall after the date of the enactment of
5 this Act be known and designated as the “Gerald B.H.
6 Solomon Saratoga National Cemetery”. Any reference to
7 such national cemetery in any law, regulation, map, docu-
8 ment, record, or other paper of the United States shall
9 be considered to be a reference to the Gerald B.H. Sol-
10 omon Saratoga National Cemetery.

11 (b) MEMORIAL.—The Secretary of Veterans Affairs
12 shall provide for the placement in the national cemetery
13 referred to in subsection (a) of a suitable memorial to
14 honor the memory of Gerald B.H. Solomon and his service
15 to the United States.

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