

114TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. _____

To designate the Veterans Memorial and Museum in Columbus, Ohio, as the National Veterans Memorial and Museum, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

Mr. PORTMAN introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on _____

A BILL

To designate the Veterans Memorial and Museum in Columbus, Ohio, as the National Veterans Memorial and Museum, 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. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “National Veterans Me-
5 morial and Museum Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS; SENSE OF CONGRESS.**

7 (a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds the following:

8 (1) The Veterans Memorial and Museum is a
9 civic landmark and cultural institution being built in
10 Columbus, Ohio, to honor, connect, inspire, and edu-

1 cate all people of the United States about the service
2 and sacrifice of more than 40,000,000 veterans, over
3 half of whom are living today, and 1,100,000 fallen
4 who have bravely defended the freedoms enjoyed by
5 all citizens of the United States of America.

6 (2) The Veterans Memorial and Museum is the
7 only public museum of its kind that exists for the
8 exclusive purpose of interpreting the collective expe-
9 riences of veterans of the United States of America
10 across all eras, conflicts, and branches of the mili-
11 tary.

12 (3) The Veterans Memorial and Museum would
13 attract and educate a diverse group of audiences
14 from across the country through its visitor-centered,
15 interactive, and participatory exhibits.

16 (4) The Veterans Memorial and Museum would
17 work to help bridge the military-civilian gap that has
18 increasingly isolated veterans and their families and
19 often made the journey from civilian to soldier back
20 to civilian more difficult to navigate.

21 (b) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Con-
22 gress that—

23 (1) the Veterans Memorial and Museum will
24 preserve the stories and legacy of service so that
25 visitors can conduct a critical evaluation of the his-

1 tory and evolution of our country as seen through
2 the lens of the military experience;

3 (2) the Veterans Memorial and Museum will in-
4 spire civilians to serve their communities and coun-
5 try as active and engaged citizens;

6 (3) the Veterans Memorial and Museum will be
7 a beacon for all veterans, veteran families, and civil-
8 ians of this country to ensure that the sacrifices of
9 America's service men and women are a guarantee
10 to posterity;

11 (4) the State of Ohio, Franklin County, and
12 many more private individuals, foundations, and cor-
13 porations have contributed millions of dollars to de-
14 sign and construct this national destination, which
15 broke ground in December 2015; and

16 (5) it is fitting and proper to refer to the Vet-
17 erans Memorial and Museum in Columbus, Ohio, as
18 the "National Veterans Memorial and Museum".

19 **SEC. 3. DESIGNATION OF NATIONAL VETERANS MEMORIAL**
20 **AND MUSEUM.**

21 (a) DESIGNATION.—The Veterans Memorial and Mu-
22 seum is hereby designated as the "National Veterans Me-
23 morial and Museum".

24 (b) VETERANS MEMORIAL AND MUSEUM DE-
25 FINED.—In this section, the term "Veterans Memorial

1 and Museum” means the memorial and museum that is,
2 as of the date of the enactment of this Act, being con-
3 structed on an approximately 7-acre area on West Broad
4 Street, Columbus, Ohio, bounded by the Scioto River and
5 the Scioto Greenway.