

115TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. _____

To require the Secretary of Defense to change the name of any military installation or other property under the jurisdiction of the Department of Defense that is currently named after any individual who took up arms against the United States during the American Civil War or any individual or entity that supported such efforts.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Ms. CLARKE of New York introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on _____

A BILL

To require the Secretary of Defense to change the name of any military installation or other property under the jurisdiction of the Department of Defense that is currently named after any individual who took up arms against the United States during the American Civil War or any individual or entity that supported such efforts.

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 “Honoring Real Patri-
5 ots Act of 2017”.

1 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

2 The Congress makes the following findings:

3 (1) The American Civil War of 1861-1865 was
4 fought over the desire of the seceding States to keep
5 human beings enslaved based upon their race.

6 (2) The Confederacy was so committed to pre-
7 serving the institution of slavery that it killed more
8 than 360,000 American soldiers in its failed effort to
9 achieve this goal.

10 (3) This act of treason was a direct attack on
11 the existence of the United States and merits no
12 honor to the Confederacy as an institution or its
13 leaders as individuals by the United States Armed
14 Forces.

15 (4) Nonetheless, United States military installa-
16 tions and other property under the jurisdiction of
17 the Department of Defense, including General Lee
18 Avenue and Stonewall Jackson Drive at Fort Ham-
19 iltion, New York, remain named after rebels who
20 took up arms against the United States.

21 (5) The United States Armed Forces are essen-
22 tial to defending the United States and protecting
23 American values of freedom, equality, and demo-
24 cratic governance.

25 (6) This role is undermined when military in-
26 stallations, facilities, roads, equipment, and other

1 property are named after enemy combatants who
2 took up arms during the Civil War to challenge the
3 very values for which the United States stands.

4 (7) Naming military property after armed in-
5 surrectionists with American blood on their hands is
6 an affront to members of the Armed Forces, many
7 of whom are people of color, who take an oath to
8 protect and defend the Constitution.

9 (8) There are an ample number of meritorious
10 members of the Armed Forces, who loyally served
11 the United States, for whom military property could
12 and should be named.

13 **SEC. 3. REDESIGNATION OF MILITARY INSTALLATIONS AND**
14 **OTHER PROPERTY UNDER THE JURISDIC-**
15 **TION OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE**
16 **NAMED AFTER INDIVIDUALS WHO TOOK UP**
17 **ARMS AGAINST THE UNITED STATES DURING**
18 **THE AMERICAN CIVIL WAR.**

19 (a) STATEMENT OF POLICY.—It is the policy of the
20 United States that no military installation or other prop-
21 erty under the jurisdiction of the Department of Defense
22 shall be or remain named after any individual who took
23 up arms against the United States during the American
24 Civil War or any individual or entity that supported such
25 efforts.

1 (b) REDESIGNATION OF PROPERTY.—Not later than
2 one year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the
3 Secretary of Defense shall change the name of each mili-
4 tary installation and other property under the jurisdiction
5 of the Department of Defense that, as of the date of the
6 enactment of this Act, is named after any individual who
7 took up arms against the United States during the Amer-
8 ican Civil War or named after any individual or entity that
9 supported such efforts.

10 (c) IMPLEMENTATION REPORT.—Not later than 30
11 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary
12 of Defense shall submit to the Committees on Armed Serv-
13 ices of the House of Representative and the Senate a re-
14 port containing a plan to comply with this section by the
15 deadline specified in subsection (b). The report shall in-
16 clude the following:

17 (1) A comprehensive list of all military installa-
18 tions and other property under the jurisdiction of
19 the Department of Defense whose name needs to be
20 changed to comply with this section.

21 (2) An estimate of the funding necessary to im-
22 plement this section, including costs associated with
23 new signage, maps, documents, and other materials
24 to reflect changes in names.