

**Congress of the United States**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

March 8, 2022

The Honorable Christine Wormuth  
Secretary  
United States Army  
101 Army Pentagon,  
Washington, DC 20310-0101

The Honorable Denis McDonough  
Secretary  
Veterans Affairs  
810 Vermont Ave., NW  
Washington, DC 20420

Dear Secretary Wormuth and Secretary McDonough,

Thank you for your continued efforts to honor veterans and ensure that their stories of service, sacrifice and patriotism are passed down as an inspiration to future generations. In that spirit, we urge you to provide families the option of utilizing Quick Response Codes (QR Codes) on or next to headstones or grave markers at Army National Military Cemeteries and all National, State, Territory, or Tribal Veterans Cemeteries as well as any headstones or markers provided by the Department of Veterans Affairs, National Cemetery Administration. These QR Codes provide a digital method for our fallen heroes' and veterans' stories to be told.

Each year hundreds of thousands of people travel across the nation to visit grave sites of our fallen heroes. These visits consist of families visiting their loved ones, students on field trips eager to learn about our military, and military members visiting their comrades. Many of the grave sites provide very little information about the fallen heroes outside of general background information like name, rank, and military service. QR codes would allow significantly more information to be accessed about the hero's service and will strengthen the mission of veteran' cemeteries to serve as a final resting place that honors our veterans while providing a greater connection for those that visit the website.

Affording veterans and their families the option to display a QR code on or next to military and veteran grave sites, provides the public with critical information regarding a member's service and personal life. Many cemeteries only provide a few lines for the next of kin to share this information. Retaining one of those lines or a space next to the grave site for a QR Code that points the reader to a website of information about the member allows family members to share more of their loved ones' stories. QR codes are already used at some military museums and Army career centers.

For service members buried at Army National Military Cemeteries, we urge you to create a safe, secure and broadly accessible option for veterans, their families and visitors to learn more about the hero at rest. For veterans buried at cemeteries under the purview of National Cemetery Administration, or any headstones or markers provided by the NCA, we recommend these QR codes link to the Veteran's page on the NCA Veteran Memorial Legacy website or another database of your choosing.

Thank you for your consideration of our request. We look forward to working with you to ensure our fallen heroes' stories can be properly told.

Sincerely,



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Mike Thompson  
Member of Congress



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Steve Daines  
United States Senator



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Brian Fitzpatrick  
Member of Congress

/s/

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Catherine Cortez Masto  
United States Senator



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Jay Obernolte  
Member of Congress



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Amy Klobuchar  
United States Senator



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Thomas R. Suozzi  
Member of Congress



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Joe Manchin III  
United States Senator



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Nikema Williams  
Member of Congress



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Kim Schrier, M.D.  
Member of Congress



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Doug LaMalfa  
Member of Congress



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Vicente Gonzalez  
Member of Congress



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Dean Phillips  
Member of Congress



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Jim Costa  
Member of Congress



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Marc Veasey  
Member of Congress



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Sharice L. Davids  
Member of Congress



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Michael F.Q. San Nicolas  
Member of Congress



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Marilyn Strickland  
Member of Congress