

Suspend the Rules and Pass the Bill, H.R. 5317, with An Amendment

(The amendment strikes all after the enacting clause and inserts a new text)

114TH CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

H. R. 5317

To designate the Department of Veterans Affairs health care center in Center Township, Butler County, Pennsylvania, as the “Abie Abraham VA Clinic”.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 24, 2016

Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania (for himself, Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania, Mr. FATTAH, Mr. PERRY, Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania, Mr. COSTELLO of Pennsylvania, Mr. MEEHAN, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. SHUSTER, Mr. MARINO, Mr. BARLETTA, Mr. ROTHFUS, Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania, Mr. MICHAEL F. DOYLE of Pennsylvania, Mr. DENT, Mr. PITTS, Mr. CARTWRIGHT, and Mr. MURPHY of Pennsylvania) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Veterans’ Affairs

A BILL

To designate the Department of Veterans Affairs health care center in Center Township, Butler County, Pennsylvania, as the “Abie Abraham VA Clinic”.

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 Congress finds the following:

1 (1) Abie Abraham of Lyndora, Pennsylvania,
2 was stationed during World War II with the 18th
3 Infantry in New York; three years with the 14th In-
4 fantry in Panama; 15th Infantry, unassigned in
5 China, while the U.S.S. Panay was sunk; 30th In-
6 fantry, Presidio, San Francisco; and the 31st Infan-
7 try, Manila, Philippines, for nine years.

8 (2) During World War II, Abraham fought, was
9 captured, endured the Bataan Death March and as
10 a prisoner of war for three and a half years, was
11 beaten, stabbed, shot, survived malaria and starva-
12 tion to be rescued by the 6th Rangers.

13 (3) Abraham stayed behind at the request of
14 General Douglas MacArthur for two and a half more
15 years disinterring the bodies of his fallen comrades
16 from the Bataan Death March and the prison
17 camps, helping to identify their bodies and see that
18 they were properly laid to rest.

19 (4) After his promotion in 1945, Abraham
20 came back to the United States where he served as
21 a recruiter and then also served two years in Ger-
22 many until his retirement with 30 years of service
23 as a Master Sergeant.

24 (5) Abraham received numerous medals for his
25 service, including the Purple Heart, and had several

1 documentaries on the Discovery Channel and His-
2 tory Channel.

3 (6) Abraham wrote the books “Ghost of Bataan
4 Speaks” in 1971 and “Oh, God, Where Are You” in
5 1977 to help the public better understand what our
6 brave men endured at the hands of the Imperial
7 Japanese Army as prisoners of war.

8 (7) Abraham was a life member of the Veterans
9 of Foreign Wars, the American Legion, the Purple
10 Heart Combat/Infantry Organization, the American
11 Ex-POWs, the Disabled American Veterans, and the
12 American Defenders of Bataan.

13 (8) Abraham was a volunteer at Veterans Af-
14 fairs Butler Healthcare for 23 years from 1988 to
15 2011 and had 36,851 service hours caring for our
16 veterans.

17 **SEC. 2. ABIE ABRAHAM VA CLINIC.**

18 (a) DESIGNATION.—The Department of Veterans Af-
19 fairs health care center in Center Township, Butler Coun-
20 ty, Pennsylvania, shall after the date of the enactment of
21 this Act be known and designated as the “Abie Abraham
22 VA Clinic”.

23 (b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in any law, regula-
24 tion, map, document, paper, or other record of the United
25 States to the health care center referred to in subsection

1 (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the “Abie Abra-
2 ham VA Clinic”.