

**TESTIMONY OF LIZZY SAVETSKY IN SUPPORT OF H.R. 2701, THE “FALLEN  
SERVICEMEMBERS RELIGIOUS HERITAGE RESTORATION ACT” BEFORE THE  
DISABILITY ASSISTANCE AND MEMORIAL AFFAIRS SUBCOMMITTEE OF THE  
HOUSE VETERANS AFFAIRS COMMITTEE**

**JUNE 24, 2025**

Chairman Luttrell and Ranking Member McGarvey, as a proud native Texan, a Jewish woman, and someone who uses my platform every day to celebrate Jewish identity and defend Israel, I’m honored to voice my strong support for H.R. 2701, the Fallen Servicemembers Religious Heritage Restoration Act.

This bill seeks to correct a deeply painful error: the burial of Jewish American soldiers under Latin crosses in overseas U.S. military cemeteries, despite the fact that they lived—and died—as Jews. It’s a quiet form of erasure that, left unaddressed, diminishes both their legacy and our nation’s commitment to honoring all who serve with accuracy and respect.

As someone who fights antisemitism and celebrates Jewish pride publicly, I know how powerful representation is. These Jewish service members deserve to rest under the symbol of their faith—the Star of David—so that generations to come will see the true face of American sacrifice, one that includes Jews who fought and died for this country. The work of Operation Benjamin to restore these headstones is sacred. But it shouldn’t

fall only to a nonprofit to fix what is ultimately the government's responsibility. H.R. 2701 ensures that our fallen Jewish heroes are finally honored in accordance with who they were.

In a moment where antisemitism is surging and Jewish visibility matters more than ever, passing this bill is not only the right thing to do—it's a powerful act of remembrance and justice.

I strongly urge Congress to pass H.R. 2701 without delay.

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