

Union Calendar No.

119TH CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

H. R. 3497

[Report No. 119-]

To establish a medal of service for law enforcement officers and first responders.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 19, 2025

Mr. MAST introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

JANUARY --, 2026

Reported with an amendment, committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union, and ordered to be printed

[Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert the part printed in italic]

[For text of introduced bill, see copy of bill as introduced on May 19, 2025]

A BILL

To establish a medal of service for law enforcement officers
and first responders.

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 “Medal of Sacrifice Act*
5 *of 2025”.*

6 **SEC. 2. MEDAL OF SACRIFICE FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT OF-**
7 **FICERS AND FIRST RESPONDERS.**

8 *(a) MEDAL OF SACRIFICE FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT*
9 *OFFICERS AND FIRST RESPONDERS.—The President shall*
10 *issue a medal of sacrifice for law enforcement officers and*
11 *first responders who were killed in the line of duty.*

12 *(b) ELIGIBILITY.—*

13 *(1) IN GENERAL.—A local, State, Tribal, terri-*
14 *torial, or Federal law enforcement officer or first re-*
15 *sponder who was killed in the line of duty shall be*
16 *eligible for the medal of sacrifice established under*
17 *subsection (a).*

18 *(2) EXCEPTION.—*

19 *(A) IN GENERAL.—A local, State, Tribal,*
20 *territorial, or Federal law enforcement officer or*
21 *first responder who is killed in the line of duty,*
22 *but who is subject to an official finding of*
23 *wrongdoing, shall not be eligible for the medal of*
24 *sacrifice established under subsection (a).*

1 (B) *INVESTIGATION.*—*In the case of an offi-*
2 *cial finding of wrongdoing, the Commission es-*
3 *tablished under subsection (c) shall investigate*
4 *the circumstances surrounding the law enforce-*
5 *ment officer’s or first responder’s cause of death,*
6 *including considering any findings by the local,*
7 *State, Tribal, territorial, or Federal agency with*
8 *respect to the officer’s or responder’s death. The*
9 *Commission established under subsection (c)*
10 *shall make a final determination as to the offi-*
11 *cer’s eligibility for the medal established under*
12 *subsection (a).*

13 (C) *OFFICIAL FINDING OF WRONGDOING.*—
14 *In this paragraph, the term “official finding of*
15 *wrongdoing” means a determination by the law*
16 *enforcement officer’s or first responders’ superior*
17 *officer or employing law agency that the officer*
18 *acted outside of the scope of their duties or not*
19 *in accordance with the agency’s official policies*
20 *or procedures.*

21 (c) *COMMISSION ON MEDAL OF SACRIFICE FOR LAW*
22 *ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS AND FIRST RESPONDERS.*—

23 (1) *ESTABLISHMENT.*—*The President shall estab-*
24 *lish a Commission on the medal of sacrifice for law*

1 *enforcement officers and first responders (hereinafter*
2 *known as the “Commission”).*

3 (2) *APPOINTMENT.—Not later than 150 days*
4 *after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Presi-*
5 *dent shall appoint 12 members of the Commission.*
6 *Such members shall be law enforcement officers, first*
7 *responders, and representatives of organizations*
8 *knowledgeable about law enforcement.*

9 (3) *TERM.—Members of the Commission shall be*
10 *appointed for a term of 5 years and shall be eligible*
11 *to serve up to two terms, either consecutively or non-*
12 *consecutively. The President shall make appointments*
13 *to fill such vacancies as may occur on the Board.*

14 (4) *PROHIBITION ON PAYMENT.—Members shall*
15 *not be paid for serving on the Commission.*

16 (5) *RESPONSIBILITIES.—The Commission*
17 *shall—*

18 (A) *advise the Commission on the design of*
19 *the medal of sacrifice for law enforcement officers*
20 *and first responders;*

21 (B) *promote the establishment of the medal*
22 *of sacrifice for law enforcement officers and first*
23 *responders;*

1 (C) *determine how the medal of sacrifice for*
2 *law enforcement officers and first responders*
3 *shall be presented;*

4 (D) *make any final determination necessary*
5 *pursuant to subsection (b)(2)(B); and*

6 (E) *advise the President regarding criteria*
7 *for assessing eligibility pursuant to subsection*
8 *(b).*

9 (6) *INITIAL AWARD.—The Commission shall*
10 *award the following law enforcement officers the*
11 *medal of sacrifice:*

12 (A) *Deputy Ralph “Butch” Waller (Badge*
13 *#8434);*

14 (B) *Deputy Ignacio “Dan” Diaz (Badge*
15 *#7637); and*

16 (C) *Deputy Luis Paez (Badge #3882).*

17 (7) *SUNSET.—The Commission shall cease to*
18 *exist on the date on which the President determines*
19 *that the Commission has completed each responsi-*
20 *bility under paragraph (5).*

21 (d) *DESCRIPTION.—The medal of sacrifice for law en-*
22 *forcement officers and first responders shall be a modified*
23 *quatrefoil, with rounded lobes extending from a central oc-*
24 *tagon. The field incorporates features of the Great Seal of*
25 *the United States, redesigned by Tiffany & Co in 1885. The*

1 *American eagle is charged with a coat of arms as a shield,*
2 *argent, on a chevron gules between three lions rampant*
3 *azure, as many chevronels argent; the crest, out of a coronet*
4 *or, a double-tailed lion rampant azure, holding in its dexter*
5 *paw a torch or enflamed proper; and “Integritas” included*
6 *as a motto. Surrounding the seal are mullets, 47 in number,*
7 *alternating with three rampant lions and incorporating*
8 *four chevrons. In base, the word “SACRIFICE” is in-*
9 *scribed. In dexter base, three oak leaves are placed, symbol-*
10 *izing the national tree of the U.S., representing strength,*
11 *resilience, and honoring the families and widows of the fall-*
12 *en. The reverse of the medal is sandblasted and bears an*
13 *engraving of the names of the fallen heroes. The medal is*
14 *suspended from a ribbon, either Azure or Gules depending*
15 *on the fallen hero being honored. The ribbon bail is pre-*
16 *pared and attached by hand soldering to the back of the*
17 *medal. The medal is crafted from Silver Ag925 with 24k*
18 *Gold Vermeil, with a weight of approximately 63 grams.*
19 *It has a diameter of 2.25 inches. The Vermeil plating has*
20 *a thickness of 2.5 microns. The medal combines national*
21 *symbols with heraldic elements to represent the sacrifice of*
22 *the fallen deputies. The use of Silver and Gold signifies the*
23 *value and honor associated with their service.*