

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 4159

To require the Secretary of Defense to issue regulations requiring that optional combat boots worn by members of the Armed Forces wear be made in America, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 26, 2025

Ms. BUDZINSKI (for herself, Mr. BOST, and Mr. GOLDEN of Maine) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Armed Services

A BILL

To require the Secretary of Defense to issue regulations requiring that optional combat boots worn by members of the Armed Forces wear be made in America, and for other purposes.

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. REGULATIONS APPLICABLE TO COMBAT FOOT-**
4 **WEAR OF MEMBERS OF ALL BRANCHES OF**
5 **THE ARMED FORCES.**

6 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 730 days after the
7 date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Defense
8 shall issue regulations prohibiting any member of the

1 armed forces from wearing optional combat boots as part
2 of a required uniform unless the optional combat boots
3 are entirely manufactured in the United States and en-
4 tirely made of—

5 (1) materials grown, reprocessed, reused, or
6 produced in the United States; and

7 (2) components that are manufactured entirely
8 in the United States and entirely made of materials
9 described in paragraph (1).

10 (b) AVAILABILITY EXEMPTION.—

11 (1) IN GENERAL.—A Secretary concerned may
12 make a determination described in subsection (c) of
13 section 4862 of title 10, United States Code, with
14 respect to optional combat boots designed for a spe-
15 cific use and a specific need of the Department of
16 Defense in the same manner as an article or item
17 under subsection (a) of such section.

18 (2) APPLICABILITY.—If a Secretary concerned
19 makes a determination described in paragraph (1)
20 with respect to optional combat boots designed for a
21 specific use and a specific need of the Department
22 of Defense, the Secretary concerned may waive the
23 prohibition under subsection (a) with respect to such
24 optional combat boots designed for a specific use to
25 the extent necessary to meet such need.

1 (c) MEDICAL EXEMPTION.—The prohibition under
2 subsection (a) shall not apply to the wearing of optional
3 combat boots by a member of the armed forces if such
4 optional combat boots are medically necessary to meet a
5 unique physiological need of such member of the armed
6 forces.

7 (d) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

8 (1) ARMED FORCES; SECRETARY CON-
9 CERNED.—The terms “armed forces” and “Sec-
10 retary concerned” have the meanings given such
11 terms, respectively, in section 101(a) of title 10,
12 United States Code.

13 (2) OPTIONAL COMBAT BOOTS.—The term “op-
14 tional combat boots”, with respect to a member of
15 the armed forces, means combat boots not furnished
16 to such member of the armed forces by the Sec-
17 retary of Defense.

18 (3) REQUIRED UNIFORM.—The term “required
19 uniform” means a uniform a member of the armed
20 forces is required to wear as a member of the armed
21 forces.

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