

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 5589

To name the Department of Veterans Affairs clinic located in Riverhead, New York, as the “Private First Class Garfield M. Langhorn VA Clinic”, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 26, 2025

Mr. LALOTA (for himself and Mr. LAWLER) introduced the following bill;
which was referred to the Committee on Veterans’ Affairs

A BILL

To name the Department of Veterans Affairs clinic located in Riverhead, New York, as the “Private First Class Garfield M. Langhorn VA Clinic”, 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. FINDINGS.**

4 Congress finds the following:

5 (1) Garfield McConnell Langhorn was born on
6 September 10, 1948, in Cumberland, Virginia, and
7 grew up in Riverhead, New York, on Long Island.

1 (2) Langhorn graduated from Riverside High
2 School in 1967, and worked for Suffolk County be-
3 fore being drafted into the United States Army in
4 1968. Private First Class Langhorn was assigned as
5 a radio operator with Troop C, 7th Squadron (Air-
6 mobile), 17th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Aviation Bri-
7 gade, and deployed to Vietnam in November 1968.

8 (3) On January 15, 1969, Langhorn's unit was
9 inserted near Plei Djereng, Pleiku Province, to res-
10 cue downed AH-1 Cobra helicopter pilots. After
11 finding both pilots deceased, the unit came under
12 heavy attack by North Vietnamese forces in heavily
13 fortified positions. Amid intense combat and while
14 surrounded, Langhorn radioed for urgent air sup-
15 port, coordinating minigun and rocket strikes from
16 the gunships above, and provided covering fire from
17 within the defensive perimeter.

18 (4) As darkness fell and air support became in-
19 effective, enemy soldiers began probing the perim-
20 eter. When an enemy grenade landed close to
21 wounded comrades, Langhorn unhesitatingly threw
22 himself on the grenade, scooped it beneath his body,
23 and absorbed the blast. By sacrificing himself, he
24 saved the lives of his comrades.

1 (5) Private First Class Langhorn’s selfless act
2 of valor, in giving his life to save his fellow soldiers,
3 stands as a timeless example of courage and sac-
4 rifice that continues to inspire his community and
5 our Nation.

6 **SEC. 2. NAME OF DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS**
7 **CLINIC, BAY SHORE, NEW YORK.**

8 The Department of Veterans Affairs clinic located in
9 Riverhead, New York, shall, after the date of the enact-
10 ment of this Act, be known and designated as the “Private
11 First Class Garfield M. Langhorn VA Clinic”. Any ref-
12 erence to such clinic in any law, regulation, map, docu-
13 ment, record, or other paper of the United States shall
14 be considered to be a reference to the “Private First Class
15 Garfield M. Langhorn VA Clinic”.

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