

108TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 1265

To provide, upon the request of a qualifying person, for the removal of the remains of any United States servicemember or other person interred in an American Battle Monuments Commission cemetery located in France or Belgium and for the transportation of such remains to a location in the United States for reinterment.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 13, 2003

Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs

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## A BILL

To provide, upon the request of a qualifying person, for the removal of the remains of any United States servicemember or other person interred in an American Battle Monuments Commission cemetery located in France or Belgium and for the transportation of such remains to a location in the United States for reinterment.

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 “American Heroes Re-  
5 patriation Act of 2003”.

1 **SEC. 2. REMOVAL OF REMAINS OF PERSONS INTERRED IN**  
2 **UNITED STATES MILITARY CEMETERIES IN**  
3 **FRANCE OR BELGIUM.**

4 (a) **REMOVAL AND TRANSPORTATION OF REMAINS.**—  
5 The Secretary of Defense, upon application of a qualifying  
6 person, shall provide for—

7 (1) the removal of the remains of any person  
8 interred in an American Battle Monuments Commis-  
9 sion cemetery located in France or Belgium from  
10 such cemetery; and

11 (2) transportation of such remains to a location  
12 in the United States selected by such qualifying per-  
13 son.

14 (b) **ABMC ASSISTANCE.**—The American Battle  
15 Monuments Commission shall provide the Secretary of De-  
16 fense with whatever assistance the Secretary may require  
17 in carrying out this section.

18 (c) **QUALIFYING PERSONS.**—For purposes of this  
19 section, a qualifying person is a person who, under section  
20 1482(c) of title 10, United States Code, may be designated  
21 to direct disposition of remains of a decedent.

22 (d) **TIME FOR APPLICATION.**—An application under  
23 subsection (a) must be submitted to the Secretary of De-  
24 fense not later than the end of the two-year period begin-  
25 ning on the date of the enactment of this Act.