

HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

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Overview

This bill clarifies that receipt of certain *Expeditionary Medals* for service in Iraq or Afghanistan would also qualify a veteran for the IRAQ WAR VET or the AFGHAN WAR VET license plates. Currently, only the respective *Campaign Medals* do so.

Background:

The Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal (GWOT-EM) is a United States Armed Forces medal created by presidential order on March 12, 2003, and established by Executive Order 13289. It recognizes those military service members who have deployed overseas in direct service to the War on Terrorism from September 11, 2001 to a date to be determined.

Prior to April 30, 2005, the GWOT expeditionary medal was awarded for service within Iraq and Afghanistan; however, it has been replaced with *the Iraq Campaign Medal and Afghanistan Campaign Medal*, and now serves primarily as recognition for personnel who have deployed in support of the War on Terrorism to locations beyond Iraq and Afghanistan.

Meanwhile, the *Iraq and Afghanistan Campaign Medals* signify service within the actual borders of those countries, respectively.