



## S. 1692 – A bill to grant a Federal charter to the Korean War Veterans Association, Incorporated

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### FLOOR SITUATION

S. 1692 is being considered on the floor under suspension of the rules and will require a two-thirds majority vote for passage. This legislation was introduced by Senator Benjamin Cardin (D-MD) on June 25, 2007. The bill passed the Senate without amendment by unanimous consent on September 12, 2007.

S. 1692 is expected to be considered on the floor of the House on June 17, 2008.

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### SUMMARY

S. 1692 grants a Federal charter to the Korean War Veterans Association, Incorporated. Under this legislation, the charter expires if the corporation does not comply with certain provisions. The charter also shall be terminated if the organization fails to maintain its status as tax-exempt.

The purposes of the corporation include organizing as a veterans' service organization to maintain a continuing interest in the welfare of veterans of the Korean War, to establish facilities for the assistance of all veterans and to represent them in their claims before the Department of Veterans Affairs, and to honor the memory of Korean War veterans.

S. 1692 establishes that the governing body will be a Board of Directors and Officers, as provided for in the articles of incorporation. This legislation requires that the corporation may not issue stock or pay a dividend. The corporation is also prohibited from contributing to or participating in any political activity.

The bill directs the corporation to submit an annual report to Congress on the activities of the corporation during the preceding fiscal year.

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### BACKGROUND

The Korean War Veterans Association is a tax-exempt corporation under the laws of the State of New York. It was incorporated in 1985 by Mr. William T. Norris of New York, a member of F Company, 27th Infantry Regiment, 25th Infantry Division, when he served as a sergeant in the Korean War. The mission of the organization is to "Defend our Nation, Care for our Veterans, Perpetuate our Legacy, Remember our Missing and Fallen, Maintain our Memorial, and Support a free Korea."

The Korean War was fought from 1950-1953 and involved the United States, the Republic of Korea (South Korea), North Korea, China, and several other nations. The war resulted in the repulsion of North Korean troops from South Korea, a cease-fire, and the establishment of the Korean Demilitarized Zone (DMZ). The conflict resulted in over 36,000 Americans killed in action, about 92,000 wounded and 8,000 missing in action. In 1995, the Korean War Veterans Memorial was dedicated in Washington, D.C. to honor the service of those Americans who served in the conflict.

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### COST

The Congressional Budget Office (CBO) estimates that "enacting this bill would have no impact on the federal budget." [Full CBO Cost Estimate](#)

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### STAFF CONTACT

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