

**AUTHORIZING SECRETARY OF VETERANS AFFAIRS TO TRANSFER NAMES OF FACILITIES, STRUCTURES, OR REAL PROPERTY OF DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS**

Mr. TRONE. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (S. 3527) to amend title 38, United States Code, to authorize the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to transfer the name of property of the Department of Veterans Affairs designated by law to other property of the Department.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.  
The text of the bill is as follows:

S. 3527

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

**SECTION 1. AUTHORITY OF SECRETARY OF VETERANS AFFAIRS TO TRANSFER NAMES OF FACILITIES, STRUCTURES, OR REAL PROPERTY OF DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS.**

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 531 of title 38, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in the section heading, by striking “**Requirement**” and inserting “**Requirements**”;

(2) by striking “Except as expressly provided by law” and inserting the following:

“(a) NAMING LIMITATION.—Except as expressly provided by law or as authorized under subsection (b)”;

(3) by adding at the end the following:

“(b) TRANSFER OF NAMES.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may transfer the name of covered property of the Department to other covered property of the Department if—

“(A) the original covered property was designated with that name by law;

“(B) the Department no longer offers benefits or services at the original covered property;

“(C) the other covered property is similar in type and purpose as the original covered property;

“(D) the other covered property is located in a different location or at a different address from the original covered property within the town, city, or other local government area specified in the designation made by such law; and

“(E) such transfer occurs not less than 30 days after the Secretary notifies the Committee on Veterans’ Affairs of the Senate, the Committee on Veterans’ Affairs of the House of Representatives, and each member of Congress representing the State in which the original covered property and other covered property are located of the intent of the Secretary to transfer the name of the original covered property to the other covered property.

“(2) REFERENCES.—If the Secretary transfers the name of covered property under paragraph (1), any reference in a law, regulation, map, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the covered property originally named by law shall be deemed to be a reference to the covered property to which the name has been transferred under such paragraph.

“(3) COVERED PROPERTY.—In this subsection, the term ‘covered property’ means a facility, structure, or real property of the Department or a major portion (such as a wing or floor) of any such facility, structure, or real property.”.

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections at the beginning of chapter 5 of title 38, United States Code, is amended by striking the item relating to section 531 and inserting the following new item:

“531. Requirements relating to naming of Department property.”.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. TRONE) and the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. BOST) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Maryland.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. TRONE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and to insert extraneous material on S. 3527.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Maryland?

There was no objection.

Mr. TRONE. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I rise in support of S. 3527, a commonsense piece of legislation introduced by the chairman of the Senate Veterans’ Affairs Committee, JON TESTER.

The purpose of this bill is to ensure the Secretary has the authority to transfer the name of a facility to another physical property should VA decide it needs to relocate the facility. Such a relocation could occur if there is a need to increase clinic space or to move a facility closer to the veteran population.

I hope my colleagues see the benefit of such authority and will join me in supporting this legislation.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BOST. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of S. 3527.

When Congress acts to name a VA medical facility in law, the name should stay with that facility even if it moves to another location in the same area. That is common sense, and it is what this bill would allow.

A lot of thought and hard work goes into honoring a veteran or other individual by naming a VA facility after them. The person who is honored this way often has a storied history that becomes important to the veterans served by that facility. That should not be taken away, and it should not be taken lightly.

I am grateful to Senator TESTER for his work on this legislation. I urge all of my colleagues to join in supporting this bill today, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. TRONE. Mr. Speaker, I ask all of my colleagues to join me in passing S. 3527, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. TRONE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, S. 3527.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. BISHOP of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 3(s) of House Resolution 8, the yeas and nays are ordered.

Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this motion are postponed.

**DANIEL KAHIKINA AKAKA DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS COMMUNITY-BASED OUTPATIENT CLINIC**

Mr. TRONE. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (S. 1760) to designate the community-based outpatient clinic of the Department of Veterans Affairs planned to be built in Oahu, Hawaii, as the “Daniel Kahikina Akaka Department of Veterans Affairs Community-Based Outpatient Clinic”.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

S. 1760

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

**SECTION 1. DESIGNATION OF DANIEL KAHIKINA AKAKA DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS COMMUNITY-BASED OUTPATIENT CLINIC.**

(a) DESIGNATION.—The community-based outpatient clinic of the Department of Veterans Affairs planned to be built in Oahu, Hawaii, shall after the date of the enactment of this Act be known and designated as the “Daniel Kahikina Akaka Department of Veterans Affairs Community-Based Outpatient Clinic” or the “Daniel Kahikina Akaka VA Clinic”.

(b) REFERENCE.—Any reference in any law, regulation, map, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the community-based outpatient clinic referred to in subsection (a) shall be considered to be a reference to the Daniel Kahikina Akaka Department of Veterans Affairs Community-Based Outpatient Clinic.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. TRONE) and the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. BOST) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Maryland.

□ 1530

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. TRONE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on S. 1760.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Maryland?

There was no objection.

Mr. TRONE. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise to offer my strong support for S. 1760, a bill to designate the veterans’ health facility in Oahu, Hawaii, as the Daniel Kahikina Akaka Department of Veterans Affairs community-based outpatient clinic, named after the first United States Senator of Native Hawaiian ancestry, the late Daniel Akaka.

I recognize Senator MAZIE HIRONO for spearheading this effort to honor a man of such great esteem. The CBOC in