To designate the Veterans Memorial and Museum in Columbus, Ohio, as the National Veterans Memorial and Museum, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

Mr. PORTMAN introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on

A BILL

To designate the Veterans Memorial and Museum in Columbus, Ohio, as the National Veterans Memorial and Museum, and for other purposes.

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “National Veterans Memorial and Museum Act”.

SEC. 2. FINDINGS; SENSE OF CONGRESS.

(a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds the following:

(1) The Veterans Memorial and Museum is a civic landmark and cultural institution being built in Columbus, Ohio, to honor, connect, inspire, and edu-
cate all people of the United States about the service and sacrifice of more than 40,000,000 veterans, over half of whom are living today, and 1,100,000 fallen who have bravely defended the freedoms enjoyed by all citizens of the United States of America.

(2) The Veterans Memorial and Museum is the only public museum of its kind that exists for the exclusive purpose of interpreting the collective experiences of veterans of the United States of America across all eras, conflicts, and branches of the military.

(3) The Veterans Memorial and Museum would attract and educate a diverse group of audiences from across the country through its visitor-centered, interactive, and participatory exhibits.

(4) The Veterans Memorial and Museum would work to help bridge the military-civilian gap that has increasingly isolated veterans and their families and often made the journey from civilian to soldier back to civilian more difficult to navigate.

(b) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Congress that—

(1) the Veterans Memorial and Museum will preserve the stories and legacy of service so that visitors can conduct a critical evaluation of the his-
tory and evolution of our country as seen through
the lens of the military experience;

(2) the Veterans Memorial and Museum will in-
spire civilians to serve their communities and coun-
try as active and engaged citizens;

(3) the Veterans Memorial and Museum will be
a beacon for all veterans, veteran families, and civil-
ians of this country to ensure that the sacrifices of
America’s service men and women are a guarantee
to posterity;

(4) the State of Ohio, Franklin County, and
many more private individuals, foundations, and cor-
porations have contributed millions of dollars to de-
sign and construct this national destination, which
broke ground in December 2015; and

(5) it is fitting and proper to refer to the Vet-
ers Memorial and Museum in Columbus, Ohio, as
the “National Veterans Memorial and Museum”.

SEC. 3. DESIGNATION OF NATIONAL VETERANS MEMORIAL
AND MUSEUM.

(a) Designation.—The Veterans Memorial and Mu-
seum is hereby designated as the “National Veterans Me-
morial and Museum”.

(b) Veterans Memorial and Museum De-
fined.—In this section, the term “Veterans Memorial
and Museum” means the memorial and museum that is, as of the date of the enactment of this Act, being constructed on an approximately 7-acre area on West Broad Street, Columbus, Ohio, bounded by the Scioto River and the Scioto Greenway.