HCR 3008

June 3, 1969: is my day of infamy. On that day 3am in the morning I was serving aboard the USS James E Kyes DD787. Just days earlier my Squadron was off the coast of Vietnam providing support to troops on the ground. Our Squadron consisted of 4 other ships and an aircraft carrier. One of those ship was the USS Everette F Evans DD754. A few days before June 3rd we as a Squadron were order to the South China sea to participate in an exercise with navies from the area including the Australian Navy. On June 2nd we were information with all these other naval unites and we were conducting aircraft operation with the American carrier UUS Kearsarge and the Australian carrier HMS Melbourne. Around midnight of June 2 we began to align the ships in order to conduct night flight operations with the HMS Melbourne. As the formation began to turn into the wind, the Melbourne collided with the Evans and cutting her in half. 74 sailors lost their that night, only one body was discovered. My ship was one of the first to reach the Evans and search for surviors.

In 2018 at our AMVETS State convention then Representative Cramer reported that a bill was being worked to place the names of the 74 on the Vietnam war

Memorial. I informed him of my involvement in this incident. At the time he seemed confident of the bills passage. To make a long story short that bill has been sitting in committee since 2019. It appears that the opposition comes from those involved with the Wall. Their greatest argument is that the deaths occurred out of the combat zone. Under title 38 of the US Code, section 101, veterans who died as a direct or indirect result of military operations in Southeast Asia are eligible for inclusion on the memorial. The evidence submitted clearly shows that the Evans had be operating in combat support and upon conclusion of the exercise would have returned to the mission of combat support in the waters off Vietnam. 11/11/2025 marks the conclusion of the 50th Commemoration of the war. I urge support of this resolution in order to suggest that the United States Congress revisit and bring forward these House and Senate bills. It would be most fitting for the names to be added before November of 2025.

USS FRANK E. EVANS (DD-754) JUNE 3, 1969









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H.R.7972 - USS Frank E. Evans Act

117th Congress (2021-2022) | Get alerts

Sponsor: Committees: Latest Action:	Rep. Schiff, Adam B. [D-CA-28] (Introduced 06/07/2022) House - Armed Services; Natural Resources House - 06/07/2022 Referred to the Committee on Armed Services, and in addition to the Committee on Natural Resources, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned. (All Actions)
Tracker: 🔞	Introduced > Passed House > Passed Senate > To President > Became Law
Summary(1)	Text(1) Actions(3) Titles(2) Amendments(0) Cosponsors(5) Committees(2) Related Bills(1)

There is one summary for H.R.7972. Bill summaries are authored by CRS.

Shown Here:

Introduced in House (06/07/2022)

USS Frank E. Evans Act

This bill requires the Department of Defense to authorize inclusion on the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Wall in the District of Columbia of the names of the 74 crew members of the USS Frank E. Evans killed on June 3, 1969.

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S.849 - U.S.S. Frank E. Evans Act

116th Congress (2019-2020)

Sponsor:	Sen. Cramer, Kevin [R-ND] (Introduced 03/14/2019)
Committees:	Senate - Energy and Natural Resources
Committee Meetings:	06/19/19 10:00AM
Latest Action:	Senate - 06/19/2019 Committee on Energy and Natural Resources Subcommittee on National Parks. Hearings
	held. With printed Hearing: S.Hrg. 116-308. (All Actions)
Tracker:	Introduced
	•

Summary(1) Text(1) Actions(2) Titles(2) Amendments(0) Cosponsors(24) Committees(1) Related Bills(2)

There is one summary for S.849. Bill summaries are authored by CRS.

Shown Here:

Introduced in Senate (03/14/2019)

U.S.S. Frank E. Evans Act

This bill requires the Department of Defense to authorize inclusion on the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Wall in the District of Columbia of the names of the 74 crew members of the USS Frank E. Evans killed on June 3, 1969.