

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2170

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JULY 22, 2025

Received; read twice and referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs

AN ACT

To name the Department of Veterans Affairs community-based outpatient clinic in Toms River, New Jersey, the Leonard G. 'Bud' Lomell, VA Clinic, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

1 **SECTION 1. FINDINGS.**

2 Congress finds the following:

3 (1) The Department of Veterans Affairs out-
4 patient clinic, a state-of-the-art facility serving the
5 region's largest veteran population, located at 1055
6 Hooper Avenue, recently opened in the Township of
7 Toms River, Ocean County, New Jersey, in the
8 Fourth Congressional District.

9 (2) The local community, including veterans,
10 believe that this facility deserves to be named in
11 honor of Second Lieutenant Leonard G. "Bud"
12 Lomell, a long time Toms River and Ocean County
13 resident, who served courageously and heroically
14 during World War II.

15 (3) Second Lieutenant Lomell was born in
16 1920, the adopted son of Scandinavian immigrant
17 parents living in Brooklyn, New York, and his fam-
18 ily eventually moved to Point Pleasant Beach, New
19 Jersey.

20 (4) After graduating from Tennessee Wesleyan
21 College, Second Lieutenant Lomell was drafted into
22 the Army, serving first with the 76th (Liberty Bell)
23 Infantry Division. When the 2nd Ranger Battalion
24 was formed in April 1943, Leonard Lomell was in-
25 vited to be the First Sergeant of D Company.

1 (5) On D-Day, June 6, 1944, First Sergeant
2 Lomell's platoon landed at Pointe du Hoc, Nor-
3 mandy, France, successfully scaling the cliffs, de-
4 spite a withering German defensive barrage.

5 (6) Pointe du Hoc, a rugged 100-foot-high
6 coastal promenade along the English Channel was
7 located between the American landing beaches,
8 Omaha and Utah. It was heavily defended by the
9 Germans and the mission of Colonel James Earl
10 Rudder's 225 Rangers was to disable five 155-milli-
11 meter artillery guns, which could have rained artil-
12 lery fire on the American forces landing on either
13 beach, jeopardizing the invasion.

14 (7) Unknown to the American forces, the guns
15 had been moved from the tip of the Pointe and hid-
16 den, pointed in the direction of Utah Beach, in an
17 inland apple orchard nearly a mile from the coastal
18 batteries.

19 (8) First Sergeant Lomell and another Ranger,
20 Sergeant Jack Kuhn, found the guns undefended,
21 and, with Kuhn providing cover, Lomell destroyed
22 the weapons with thermite grenades and used his
23 rifle butt to smash the sights of the guns.

24 (9) First Sergeant Lomell subsequently received
25 a battlefield promotion to Second Lieutenant, and

1 was awarded some of the Army's highest honors, in-
2 cluding the Distinguished Service Cross, Purple
3 Heart, and Silver Star.

4 (10) Renowned historian Steven Ambrose re-
5 garded First Sergeant Lomell's valiant acts along
6 with General Eisenhower's decision to invade on
7 June 6, 1944, as the most significant actions ensur-
8 ing the Allied victory on D-Day.

9 (11) Following World War II, Second Lieuten-
10 ant Lomell was appointed as the First Director of
11 the newly organized Ocean County Veteran's Service
12 Bureau, serving from 1946 until 1948, before he at-
13 tended law school on the G.I. Bill.

14 (12) Leonard Lomell and his wife, Charlotte
15 Ewart Lomell, settled their growing family in Toms
16 River, where, in 1957, Leonard established his own
17 law firm, which grew to become one of Ocean Coun-
18 ty's largest firms.

19 (13) Leonard Lomell was involved in numerous
20 local civic, business, and charitable organizations, in-
21 cluding serving as president of the Ocean County
22 Bar Association, a director of the First National
23 Bank of Toms River, a member of the Dover Town-
24 ship Board of Education, and a co-founder of the
25 Garden State Philharmonic. He was also National

1 Commander of the Legion of Valor (1964-1965) and
2 President of the Ranger Battalion Association of
3 World War II (1967) and served on the French
4 Committee of Pointe du Hoc.

5 (14) Second Lieutenant Lomell is profiled in
6 “The Greatest Generation”, former NBC news An-
7 chor Tom Brokaw’s testament to the heroes of
8 World War II, and “Len Lomell: D-Day Hero”, Ste-
9 ven M. Gillon’s entry in the American War Heroes
10 Series.

11 (15) As a decorated war hero, model citizen,
12 and dedicated husband and father, Second Lieuten-
13 ant Lomell is exceedingly deserving of the post-
14 humous honor of having a new and long-awaited
15 Toms River-based Department of Veterans Affairs
16 outpatient clinic named in his honor.

17 **SEC. 2. NAME OF DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS**

18 **COMMUNITY-BASED OUTPATIENT CLINIC,**

19 **TOMS RIVER, NEW JERSEY.**

20 The community-based outpatient clinic of the Depart-
21 ment of Veterans Affairs in Toms River, New Jersey,
22 shall, after the date of the enactment of this Act, be known
23 and designated as the “Leonard G. ‘Bud’ Lomell VA Clin-
24 ic”. Any reference to such clinic in any law, regulation,
25 map, document, record, or other paper of the United

- 1 States shall be considered to be a reference to the Leonard
- 2 G. “Bud” Lomell VA Clinic.

Passed the House of Representatives July 21, 2025.

Attest: KEVIN F. MCCUMBER,
Clerk.