Department of Veterans Affairs Washington, DC 20420 January 30, 2020

## PUBLIC LAW 116-106, FALLEN WARRIOR BATTLEFIELD CROSS MEMORIAL ACT

- **1. PURPOSE/REASON FOR ISSUE:** This notice provides information about provisions in Public Law 116-106, which amends, title 38, United States Code (U.S.C.), to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to permit the display of Fallen Soldier Displays in national cemeteries.
- **2. BACKGROUND:** On January 7, 2020, President Donald Trump signed H.R.1424, enacting Public Law 116-106, which provides that the Secretary shall permit the display of a Fallen Soldier Display in any national cemetery. This provision will have minimal impact because NCA policy already permits display of Fallen Soldier Displays in national cemeteries.

## 3. SUMMARY OF PUBLIC LAW 116-106:

Section 2. Authorization for Fallen Soldier Displays in National Cemeteries.

This section amended 38 U.S.C. § 2403, by adding subsection (d) that requires the Secretary to permit the display of a Fallen Soldier Display, which is subject to the standards established by the Secretary, in any national cemetery. The subsection also defines the term 'Fallen Soldier Display' as a memorial monument in honor of fallen members of the Armed Forces that may include a replica of an inverted rifle, boots, helmets, and identification tag.

- **4. ACTION:** NCA will continue to follow procedures outlined in NCA Handbook 3160.02 "Processing Donations of Standardized Memorial Monuments, Plaques, Benches and Trees; Fallen Soldier Displays" (January 15, 2019), which already allows for the donation and placement of Fallen Soldier displays. NCA policy is consistent with the new statutory requirements.
- **5. RESPONSIBLE OFFICE:** National Cemetery Administration, Office of Finance and Planning, Legislative and Regulatory Service (42E), 810 Vermont Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20420, is responsible for the contents of this notice.
- **6. EXPIRATION:** This notice will be archived on the last day of June 2020.

/s/ Ronald E. Walters
Principal Deputy Under Secretary for Memorial Affairs

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