



Association of Professional
GENEALOGISTS

19 February 2026

Senator Mike Crapo
239 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Senator Jeanne Shaheen
506 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Crapo and Senator Shaheen:

The Association of Professional Genealogists (APG) urges the Senate to pass the Bring Our Heroes Home Act, and to coordinate with the House of Representatives to create the *Missing Armed Forces and Civilian Personnel Records Collection*. APG acknowledges and credits the efforts of the Coalition of Families of Korean & Cold War POW/MIAs in drafting, shaping and advocating for legislation designed to help our nation's POW/MIA families.

Founded in 1979, APG represents more than 2,000 genealogists worldwide, and is committed to preserving and disseminating historical information. Our members include small business owners who frequently research service members and their fates. BOHHA is a significant step towards telling missing soldiers' stories and honoring their memories.

More than 81,000 Americans remain unaccounted for in conflicts dating from WWII to the present. Families seeking answers and closure are met with delays and obstruction, as there exists little obligation for agencies to disclose reports. Documents remain classified or restricted despite them being decades old, and many of them should have already transferred to the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA). Appropriate transfers of records to NARA allow for preservation, declassification, and most importantly, access for families.

APG supports the creation of the *Missing Armed Forces and Civilian Personnel Records Collection*, which will coordinate with agencies to identify, schedule and transfer records to NARA. NARA archivists with appropriate training, in coordination with equity-owning agencies as required, will then be able to make the appropriate information accessible to families of the missing on a timely basis. The Bring Our Heroes Home Act (BOHHA) is necessary to create an enforceable, independent, and accountable process for the public disclosure of records relating to our missing Armed Forces and civilian personnel.

advocacy@apgen.org

PO Box 2369, Poulsbo, WA 98370



Association of Professional
GENEALOGISTS

APG respectfully urges Congress to pass the Bring Our Heroes Home Act, and to provide additional funding for NARA that will allow it to support the additional workload of cataloging and storing documents to make records easily accessible for families who seek closure, enabling it to fulfill its broader commitments to the public.

Sincerely,

Patricia A. Seguire

President, Association of Professional Genealogists

advocacy@apgen.org

PO Box 2369, Poulsbo, WA 98370