

**For Immediate Release:** *May 9, 2011*

**Washington D.C.** – Legislation introduced by Congressman Duncan Hunter (R-CA)—H.R. 290, the War Memorial Protection Act—has been included as a provision in the National Defense Authorization Act, under consideration by the House Armed Services Committee this week. The legislation, which allows for the inclusion of religious symbols on war memorials, was introduced by Hunter following a ruling by the Ninth Circuit that the Mt. Soledad Veterans Memorial in San Diego is unconstitutional.

“The War Memorial Protection Act, now part of the annual defense bill, is one step closer to becoming law,” said Congressman Hunter, a veteran of the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan. “By creating a foundation in federal law for the preservation of war memorials that display religious symbols, the threat of unwarranted legal action, whether it’s against Mt. Soledad or other memorials like it, is significantly reduced if not eliminated altogether.”

Last week, Hunter testified before a House subcommittee on the War Memorial Protection Act. His prepared statement is available [here](#).