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[HOUSE BILL NO. 311.]

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, DEC. 30, 1864.—Read first and second times; to be printed.

[By Mr. NORTON, Committee on Military Affairs.]

A BILL

To provide additional Clothing and Privileges to Troops in the Field.

1 Whereas the armies of the Confederate States of America,
2 unawed by the powerful combinations of our enemies, or the
3 fearful depreciation of the national currency, continue to pre-
4 sent an instance of lofty patriotism and self-sacrificing fidelity,
5 unexampled in the history of wars: and whereas it is the duty
6 of this government to extend to all its actual defenders alike
7 every respect and consideration, and to provide them with every
8 personal comfort not incompatible with the interests of the
9 public service: Therefore,

1 SECTION 1. The Congress of the Confederate States of Ame-
2 rica do enact, That the non-commissioned officers, musicians and
3 privates of the confederate armies in the field, exclusive of re-
4 serves, details, and those absent without leave, shall be provided
5 each with one complete suit of uniform clothing, *to be presented*
6 them by the government, in addition to their present pay and
7 allowances, as an expression of the gratitude of the nation for

8 their gallantry, their sacrifices and their unflinching devotion to
9 the country.

1 SEC. 2. All officers and soldiers of the Confederate States
2 armies, who volunteered previous to the passage of the con-
3 scription act, April 16th, 1862, and who have since been con-
4 tinuously in the army, except while absent on leave, or because
5 of sickness or disability, or when detained by imprisonment,
6 shall be entitled to wear, in consideration of their long service,
7 such distinguishing mark or badge as the President or Secretary
8 of War shall designate.