

AMENDMENT TO RULES COMMITTEE PRINT 119-

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OFFERED BY MS. LEE OF NEVADA

Page 1208, after line 21, insert the following new subtitle:

1 **Subtitle C—Veterans Exposed to**
2 **Toxic Substances**

3 **SEC. 17___ . COORDINATION WITH DEPARTMENT OF DE-**
4 **FENSE TO IDENTIFY VETERANS WHO PER-**
5 **FORMED MILITARY SERVICE AT COVERED**
6 **LOCATIONS.**

7 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Veterans Af-
8 fairs, in coordination with the Secretary of Defense, shall
9 establish and carry out a process to identify veterans who
10 served at a covered location and may have encountered
11 toxic exposure during active military, naval, air, or space
12 service.

13 (b) USE OF AVAILABLE INFORMATION.—In carrying
14 out subsection (a), the Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall
15 use—

16 (1) military personnel and deployment records
17 maintained by the Department of Defense; and

1 Security Site no longer pose radiation risk to
2 personnel present, or enactment of this clause,
3 whichever is later.”.

4 **SEC. 17___ . STUDY ON TOXIC EXPOSURES AT COVERED LO-**
5 **CATIONS.**

6 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the
7 date of the enactment of this section, the Secretary of Vet-
8 erans Affairs, in coordination with the Secretary of De-
9 fense, shall seek to enter into an agreement with the De-
10 partment of Health and Human Services or another ap-
11 propriate scientific organization to study potential toxic
12 exposures and environmental hazards at covered locations.

13 (b) STUDY.—The study required under subsection (a)
14 shall—

15 (1) identify exposures associated with military
16 occupations of veterans who served at covered loca-
17 tions, including exposures relating to chemicals,
18 compounds, agents, and other phenomena; and

19 (2) review the literature to determine associa-
20 tions between such exposures and the incidence or
21 prevalence of overall cancer morbidity and overall
22 cancer mortality, and determine, to the extent pos-
23 sible, the prevalence and mortality of cancers among
24 such veterans by using available sources of data,
25 which may include—

1 (A) health care and other administrative
2 databases of the Department of Veterans Af-
3 fairs, the Department of Defense, and the mili-
4 tary departments, respectively; and

5 (B) the national death index maintained by
6 the National Center for Health Statistics of the
7 Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

8 (c) TRANSFER AUTHORITY.—Amounts authorized to
9 be appropriated to the Secretary of Defense to carry out
10 the study required under subsection (a) may be trans-
11 ferred without regard to section 2215 of title 10, United
12 States Code, to the Secretary of Health and Human Serv-
13 ices to pay for the study.

14 (d) REPORT.—At the conclusion of the study required
15 under subsection (a), the Department of Health and
16 Human Services or other appropriate scientific organiza-
17 tion, as the case may be, shall submit to the Secretary
18 of Veterans Affairs, the Committee on Veterans' Affairs
19 of the Senate, the Committee on Veterans' Affairs of the
20 House of Representatives, the President of the National
21 Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine, and
22 the Chair of the National Research Council a report con-
23 taining the results of the study.

1 **SEC. 17____. COVERED LOCATION VETERAN REGISTRY.**

2 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary of Veterans
3 Affairs shall establish and maintain a registry of veterans
4 who served at covered locations who may have encountered
5 toxic exposure during active military, naval, air, or space
6 service (in this section referred to as the “registry”).

7 (b) PURPOSES.—The registry shall be used to—

8 (1) collect, process, maintain, and consolidate
9 epidemiological information required to analyze inci-
10 dence of adverse health effects among veterans who
11 served in covered locations;

12 (2) facilitate coordination between the Depart-
13 ment of Veterans Affairs and the Department of De-
14 fense to verify service;

15 (3) inform veterans of available health care,
16 benefits, and screenings; and

17 (4) support outreach, research, and claims ad-
18 judication related to toxic exposure.

19 (c) OPT-OUT AND RECRUITMENT.—

20 (1) OPT-OUT.—Participants must have the op-
21 portunity to opt-out of inclusion in the registry.

22 (2) RECRUITMENT.—The Secretary of Veterans
23 Affairs shall recruit veterans described in subsection
24 (a) who are not represented in data sources of the
25 Department of Defense or the Department of Vet-
26 erans Affairs.

1 (d) DATA-SHARING.—The Secretary of Veterans Af-
2 fairs shall share information collected through the registry
3 with the Secretary of Defense, consistent with applicable
4 privacy and security laws, for purposes of identifying af-
5 fected veterans and improving care and benefits delivery.

6 **SEC. 17 ____. DEFINITIONS.**

7 In this subtitle:

8 (1) ACTIVE MILITARY, NAVAL, AIR, OR SPACE
9 SERVICE.—The term “active military, naval, air, or
10 space service” has the meaning given that term in
11 section 101(24) of title 38, United States Code.

12 (2) COVERED LOCATION.—The term “covered
13 location” means—

14 (A) any facility on the most recent list of
15 facilities covered under the Energy Employees
16 Occupational Illness Compensation Program
17 Act of 2000 (42 U.S.C. 7384 et seq.) published
18 in the Federal Register by the Department of
19 Energy; or

20 (B) with respect to service on or after Jan-
21 uary 27, 1951, any location within the Nevada
22 Test and Training Range or the Nevada Na-
23 tional Security Site (as defined on May 19,
24 2026).

1 (3) TOXIC EXPOSURE.—The term “toxic expo-
2 sure” has the meaning given that term in section
3 101(37) of title 38, United States Code.

