

S 3058

Energy Workers Compensation Act of 2002

**Congress:** 107 (2001–2003, Ended)

**Chamber:** Senate

**Policy Area:** Labor and Employment

**Introduced:** Oct 4, 2002

**Current Status:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions. (text of measure

**Latest Action:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions. (text of measure as introduced: CR S9987-9991) (Oct 4, 2002)

**Official Text:** <https://www.congress.gov/bill/107th-congress/senate-bill/3058>

Sponsor

**Name:** Sen. Bingaman, Jeff [D-NM]

**Party:** Democratic • **State:** NM • **Chamber:** Senate

Cosponsors (7 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Allard, Wayne [R-CO]	R · CO		Oct 4, 2002
Sen. Bunning, Jim [R-KY]	R · KY		Oct 4, 2002
Sen. Clinton, Hillary Rodham [D-NY]	D · NY		Oct 4, 2002
Sen. Harkin, Tom [D-IA]	D · IA		Oct 4, 2002
Sen. Reid, Harry [D-NV]	D · NV		Oct 4, 2002
Sen. Dodd, Christopher J. [D-CT]	D · CT		Oct 17, 2002
Sen. Carnahan, Jean [D-MO]	D · MO		Oct 28, 2002

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee	Senate	Referred To	Oct 4, 2002

Subjects & Policy Tags

**Policy Area:**

Labor and Employment

Related Bills

No related bills are listed.

Energy Workers Compensation Act of 2002 - Amends the Energy Employees Occupational Illness Compensation Program Act of 2000 (EEOICPA) to provide for worker compensation benefit payments to contractor employees of the Department of Energy (DOE) who were exposed to toxic substances at DOE facilities. (This new subtitle D replaces the current provisions for DOE assistance to such employees in State workers compensation proceedings.) Requires DOE to review claims and determine causation within specified time limits (with the Secretary of Health and Human Services (HHS) continuing to appoint members of physician review panels for diagnosing such occupational illnesses). Directs the Secretary of Labor to pay such benefits from the EEOICPA fund for claimants approved by DOE. Requires the Secretaries of Energy and of Labor to ensure that such claims are resolved in a nonadversarial manner.

Revises EEOIPA subtitle B program administration provisions to add as covered illnesses: (1) chronic renal disease, for uranium workers; (2) mercury disease, for workers employed at facilities utilizing more than 100 kilograms of mercury; and (3) lung cancer, among beryllium-related diseases. Revises provisions relating to: (1) a special exposure cohort expansion procedure; (2) the radioepidemiologic model for determining compensation; and (3) additional specified cancers.

Provides for EEOIPA coordination with other Federal laws, including the Radiation Exposure Compensation Act.

Provides administrative assistance for claimants under either subtitle B or D, including administrative relief and proof where medical records are not available, resource centers, and outreach programs. Establishes within the Office of the Secretary of Labor the Office of the Ombudsman for Occupational Illness Compensation, which is to coordinate activities of the Secretaries of Labor, Energy, and HHS under EEOICPA.

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## **Actions Timeline**

- **Oct 4, 2002:** Introduced in Senate
- **Oct 4, 2002:** Sponsor introductory remarks on measure. (CR S9986-9987)
- **Oct 4, 2002:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions. (text of measure as introduced: CR S9987-9991)