

HR 3253

Department of Veterans Affairs Emergency Preparedness Act of 2002

Congress: 107 (2001–2003, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Armed Forces and National Security

Introduced: Nov 8, 2001

Current Status: Became Public Law No: 107-287.

Latest Action: Became Public Law No: 107-287. (Nov 7, 2002)

Law: 107-287 (Enacted Nov 7, 2002)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/107th-congress/house-bill/3253>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Smith, Christopher H. [R-NJ-4]

Party: Republican • State: NJ • Chamber: House

Cosponsors (14 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Bilirakis, Michael [R-FL-9]	R · FL		Nov 8, 2001
Rep. Buyer, Steve [R-IN-5]	R · IN		Nov 8, 2001
Rep. Evans, Lane [D-IL-17]	D · IL		Nov 8, 2001
Rep. Rodriguez, Ciro D. [D-TX-28]	D · TX		Nov 8, 2001
Rep. Stearns, Cliff [R-FL-6]	R · FL		Nov 8, 2001
Rep. Cooksey, John [R-LA-5]	R · LA		Nov 15, 2001
Rep. Ferguson, Mike [R-NJ-7]	R · NJ		Nov 27, 2001
Rep. Filner, Bob [D-CA-50]	D · CA		May 7, 2002
Rep. Berkley, Shelley [D-NV-1]	D · NV		May 9, 2002
Rep. Miller, Jeff [R-FL-1]	R · FL		May 9, 2002
Rep. Shows, Ronnie [D-MS-4]	D · MS		May 9, 2002
Rep. Simpson, Michael K. [R-ID-2]	R · ID		May 9, 2002
Rep. Udall, Tom [D-NM-3]	D · NM		May 9, 2002
Rep. Davis, Susan A. [D-CA-49]	D · CA		May 16, 2002

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Veterans' Affairs Committee	House	Reported by	May 1, 2002
Veterans' Affairs Committee	Senate	Discharged From	Aug 2, 2002

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Armed Forces and National Security

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
107 HRES 526	Related bill	Sep 17, 2002: Motion to reconsider laid on the table Agreed to without objection.
107 S 2132	Related bill	Jul 31, 2002: Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 534.

Summary (as of Oct 15, 2002)

Department of Veterans Affairs Emergency Preparedness Act of 2002 - (Sec. 2) Directs the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to establish four medical emergency preparedness centers within Department of Veterans Affairs medical centers to: (1) research and develop methods of detection, diagnosis, prevention, and treatment of injuries, diseases, and illnesses arising from the use of chemical, biological, radiological, or incendiary or other explosive weapons or devices posing threats to the public health and safety; (2) provide education, training, and advice to health-care professionals; and (3) provide laboratory, epidemiological, medical, and other appropriate assistance to Federal, State, and local health care agencies and personnel involved in or responding to a disaster or emergency.

Sets forth criteria for selecting center sites, including the development of arrangements for education and training with qualifying medical or public health schools, epidemiological graduate programs, and allied health personnel and students as well as the ability to attract the appropriate scientists. Requires the dissemination of information produced from such research to U.S. health-care providers. Directs the Under Secretary for Health to allocate to such centers additional funds otherwise appropriated for veterans' medical care and research.

Authorizes appropriations for FY 2003 through 2007.

Directs the Under Secretary to establish a peer review panel to assess the scientific and clinical merit of center designation proposals.

(Sec. 3) Directs the Secretary to develop and disseminate a series of model education and training programs on the medical responses to the consequences of terrorist activities. Requires such programs to be modeled after programs established at the F. Edward Hebert School of Medicine of the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences. Requires such programs to provide training for health care professionals in the recognition of chemical, biological, radiological, incendiary, or other explosive agents, the identification of symptoms of exposure to such agents, emergency and follow-up treatment for exposure, potential long-term health consequences, and protection against contamination, injury, or other hazards while providing care. Requires that different programs be designed for health-care professionals in Department medical centers.

(Sec. 4) Authorizes the Secretary to furnish hospital care and medical services to: (1) individuals responding to, involved in, or otherwise affected by a disaster or medical emergency; (2) veterans without regard to their enrollment in the Department's annual patient enrollment system; and (3) active-duty military personnel responding to or involved in the disaster or emergency. Requires the Secretary, within 60 days of providing any such care or services, to report to the congressional veterans' committees on allocated facilities and personnel.

(Sec. 5) Establishes within the Department the position of Assistant Secretary with responsibility for operations, preparedness, security, and law enforcement functions.

(Sec. 6) Codifies under Federal law certain provisions of the Public Health Security and Bioterrorism Preparedness and Response Act of 2002 enumerating duties of the Secretary relating to emergency preparedness within the Department.

Actions Timeline

- **Nov 7, 2002:** Signed by President.
- **Nov 7, 2002:** Signed by President.
- **Nov 7, 2002:** Became Public Law No: 107-287.
- **Nov 7, 2002:** Became Public Law No: 107-287.
- **Oct 29, 2002:** Presented to President.
- **Oct 29, 2002:** Presented to President.
- **Oct 16, 2002:** Message on Senate action sent to the House.
- **Oct 16, 2002:** Mr. Arney asked unanimous consent that the House agree to the Senate amendment to the House amendment to the Senate amendments.
- **Oct 16, 2002:** Resolving differences -- House actions: On motion that the House agree to the Senate amendment to the House amendment to the Senate amendments Agreed to without objection.(consideration: CR H7964-8009; text as House agreed to Senate amendments: CR H8006-8008)
- **Oct 16, 2002:** On motion that the House agree to the Senate amendment to the House amendment to the Senate amendments Agreed to without objection. (consideration: CR H7964-8009; text as House agreed to Senate amendments: CR H8006-8008)
- **Oct 16, 2002:** Motion to reconsider laid on the table Agreed to without objection.
- **Oct 15, 2002:** Resolving differences -- Senate actions: Senate concurred in House amendment with an amendment by Unanimous Consent.(consideration: CR S10473-10476)
- **Oct 15, 2002:** Senate concurred in House amendment with an amendment by Unanimous Consent. (consideration: CR S10473-10476)
- **Sep 18, 2002:** Message on House action received in Senate and at desk: House amendment to Senate amendments.
- **Sep 17, 2002:** Resolving differences -- House actions: House agreed to Senate amendments with amendment pursuant to H. Res. 526.
- **Sep 17, 2002:** House agreed to Senate amendments with amendment pursuant to H. Res. 526.
- **Sep 4, 2002:** Message on Senate action sent to the House.
- **Aug 1, 2002:** Senate Committee on Veterans' Affairs discharged by Unanimous Consent.
- **Aug 1, 2002:** Senate Committee on Veterans' Affairs discharged by Unanimous Consent.
- **Aug 1, 2002:** Measure laid before Senate by unanimous consent. (consideration: CR S8025-8026)
- **Aug 1, 2002:** Passed/agreed to in Senate: Passed Senate with an amendment and an amendment to the Title by Unanimous Consent.
- **Aug 1, 2002:** Passed Senate with an amendment and an amendment to the Title by Unanimous Consent.
- **May 21, 2002:** Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.
- **May 20, 2002:** Mr. Smith (NJ) moved to suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended.
- **May 20, 2002:** Considered under suspension of the rules. (consideration: CR H2610-2614)
- **May 20, 2002:** DEBATE - The House proceeded with forty minutes of debate on H.R. 3253.
- **May 20, 2002:** At the conclusion of debate, the Yeas and Nays were demanded and ordered. Pursuant to the provisions of clause 8, rule XX, the Chair announced that further proceedings on the motion would be postponed.
- **May 20, 2002:** ORDER OF PROCEDURE - Mr. Smith (NJ) asked unanimous consent that the order for the Yeas and Nays on the question of adoption of the motion to suspend the rules and pass H.R. 3253, as amended, be vacated to the end that the Chair put the question de novo. Agreed to without objection.
- **May 20, 2002:** Considered as unfinished business. (consideration: CR H2630)
- **May 20, 2002:** Passed/agreed to in House: On motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended Agreed to by voice vote.(text: CR H2610-2611)
- **May 20, 2002:** On motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended Agreed to by voice vote. (text: CR H2610-2611)
- **May 20, 2002:** Motion to reconsider laid on the table Agreed to without objection.
- **May 20, 2002:** The title of the measure was amended. Agreed to without objection.
- **May 16, 2002:** Reported (Amended) by the Committee on Veterans' Affairs. H. Rept. 107-471.
- **May 16, 2002:** Reported (Amended) by the Committee on Veterans' Affairs. H. Rept. 107-471.
- **May 16, 2002:** Placed on the Union Calendar, Calendar No. 282.
- **May 9, 2002:** Committee Consideration and Mark-up Session Held.

- May 9, 2002:** Ordered to be Reported (Amended) by Voice Vote.
- **May 1, 2002:** Subcommittee Consideration and Mark-up Session Held.
 - **May 1, 2002:** Forwarded by Subcommittee to Full Committee (Amended) by Voice Vote.
 - **Apr 10, 2002:** Subcommittee Hearings Held.
 - **Mar 22, 2002:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Health.
 - **Nov 8, 2001:** Introduced in House
 - **Nov 8, 2001:** Introduced in House
 - **Nov 8, 2001:** Sponsor introductory remarks on measure. (CR E2043-2044)
 - **Nov 8, 2001:** Referred to the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs.