

S 517

Francis W. Agnes Prisoner of War Benefits Act of 2003

**Congress:** 108 (2003–2005, Ended)

**Chamber:** Senate

**Policy Area:** Armed Forces and National Security

**Introduced:** Mar 5, 2003

**Current Status:** Committee on Veterans' Affairs. Hearings held.

**Latest Action:** Committee on Veterans' Affairs. Hearings held. (Jul 10, 2003)

**Official Text:** <https://www.congress.gov/bill/108th-congress/senate-bill/517>

Sponsor

**Name:** Sen. Murray, Patty [D-WA]

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

Cosponsors (7 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Cantwell, Maria [D-WA]	D · WA		Apr 30, 2003
Sen. Wyden, Ron [D-OR]	D · OR		May 23, 2003
Sen. Mikulski, Barbara A. [D-MD]	D · MD		Jun 11, 2003
Sen. Dayton, Mark [D-MN]	D · MN		Jun 25, 2003
Sen. Durbin, Richard J. [D-IL]	D · IL		Jul 16, 2003
Sen. Pryor, Mark L. [D-AR]	D · AR		Oct 17, 2003
Sen. Schumer, Charles E. [D-NY]	D · NY		Jan 22, 2004

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Veterans' Affairs Committee	Senate	Hearings By (full committee)	Jul 10, 2003

Subjects & Policy Tags

**Policy Area:**

Armed Forces and National Security

Related Bills

No related bills are listed.

## Summary (as of Mar 5, 2003)

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Francis W. Agnes Prisoner of War Benefits Act of 2003 - Amends Federal veterans' benefits provisions with respect to former prisoners of war to repeal the currently required: (1) 30-day minimum period of internment prior to the presumption of service connection for certain listed diseases, for purposes of the payment of veterans' disability compensation; and (2) 90-day minimum period of internment prior to eligibility for dental care furnished through the Department of Veterans Affairs. Adds the following to the listed diseases under (1), above: heart disease, stroke, liver disease, diabetes (type 2), and osteoporosis. Requires: (1) such presumption also with respect to any disease that the Secretary of Veterans Affairs determines warrants such presumption by reason of having a positive association with the experience of being a prisoner of war; and (2) the Secretary to make such a determination within 60 days after a recommendation from the Advisory Committee on Former Prisoners of War that such presumption be established for a non-listed disease.

## Actions Timeline

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- **Jul 10, 2003:** Committee on Veterans' Affairs. Hearings held.
- **Mar 5, 2003:** Introduced in Senate
- **Mar 5, 2003:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.