

## HR 2510

Helping Veterans Exposed to Toxic Chemicals Act

**Congress:** 113 (2013–2015, Ended)

**Chamber:** House

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

**Introduced:** Jun 26, 2013

**Current Status:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Readiness.

**Latest Action:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Readiness. (Aug 29, 2013)

**Official Text:** <https://www.congress.gov/bill/113th-congress/house-bill/2510>

### Sponsor

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**Party:** Democratic • **State:** NY • **Chamber:** House

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Rep. Holt, Rush [D-NJ-12]	D · NJ		Apr 7, 2014
Rep. Lowey, Nita M. [D-NY-17]	D · NY		May 6, 2014
Rep. Bustos, Cheri [D-IL-17]	D · IL		Jul 17, 2014
Rep. Shea-Porter, Carol [D-NH-1]	D · NH		Sep 18, 2014

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Armed Services Committee	House	Referred to	Aug 29, 2013

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Armed Forces and National Security

Related Bills

No related bills are listed.

Helping Veterans Exposed to Toxic Chemicals Act - Directs the Secretary of Defense to establish within the Department of Defense (DOD) three centers of excellence in the prevention, diagnosis, mitigation, treatment, and rehabilitation of health conditions relating to exposure to open burn pits and other environmental exposures.

Requires the Secretary to select for such centers entities that: (1) are equipped with the specialized equipment needed to study, diagnose, and treat health conditions relating to such exposure; (2) have a publication track record of post-deployment health exposures among veterans from Iraq and Afghanistan; (3) have collaborated with a geosciences department that has a medical geology division; (4) have developed animal models and in vitro models of dust immunology and lung injury from Iraq and Afghanistan; and (5) have expertise in allergy and immunology, pulmonary diseases, and industrial and management engineering.

Directs the Secretary to ensure that the centers collaborate with the Secretary of Veterans Affairs (VA), institutions of higher education, and other appropriate public and private entities to carry out specified responsibilities, including to: (1) implement the comprehensive plan and strategy for DOD for the prevention, diagnosis, mitigation, treatment, and rehabilitation of health conditions relating to such exposure; and (2) provide for dissemination within DOD of best practices for the treatment of such conditions and the training of health professionals.

Requires the center to have access to and make use of the data accumulated by the burn pits registry established under the Dignified Burial and Other Veterans' Benefits Improvement Act of 2012.

### **Actions Timeline**

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- **Aug 29, 2013:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Readiness.
- **Jun 26, 2013:** Introduced in House
- **Jun 26, 2013:** Referred to the House Committee on Armed Services.