

HR 4816

Toxic Exposure Research and Military Family Support Act of 2014

Congress: 113 (2013–2015, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Armed Forces and National Security

Introduced: Jun 9, 2014

Current Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on Military Personnel.

Latest Action: Referred to the Subcommittee on Military Personnel. (Jul 1, 2014)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/113th-congress/house-bill/4816>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Honda, Michael M. [D-CA-17]

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

Cosponsors (25 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Del. Bordallo, Madeleine Z. [D-GU-At Large]	D · GU		Jun 9, 2014
Rep. Conyers, John, Jr. [D-MI-13]	D · MI		Jun 9, 2014
Rep. Grijalva, Raúl M. [D-AZ-3]	D · AZ		Jun 9, 2014
Rep. Higgins, Brian [D-NY-26]	D · NY		Jun 9, 2014
Rep. Keating, William R. [D-MA-9]	D · MA		Jun 9, 2014
Rep. Kirkpatrick, Ann [D-AZ-1]	D · AZ		Jun 9, 2014
Rep. Lee, Barbara [D-CA-13]	D · CA		Jun 9, 2014
Rep. Napolitano, Grace F. [D-CA-32]	D · CA		Jun 9, 2014
Rep. Welch, Peter [D-VT-At Large]	D · VT		Jun 9, 2014
Del. Faleomavaega, Eni F. H. [D-AS-At Large]	D · AS		Jun 10, 2014
Del. Norton, Eleanor Holmes [D-DC-At Large]	D · DC		Jun 10, 2014
Rep. McGovern, James P. [D-MA-2]	D · MA		Jun 10, 2014
Rep. Pingree, Chellie [D-ME-1]	D · ME		Jun 10, 2014
Rep. DeFazio, Peter A. [D-OR-4]	D · OR		Jun 20, 2014
Rep. Lowey, Nita M. [D-NY-17]	D · NY		Jul 10, 2014
Rep. Pastor, Ed [D-AZ-7]	D · AZ		Jul 10, 2014
Rep. Rahall, Nick J., II [D-WV-3]	D · WV		Jul 10, 2014
Rep. Vela, Filemon [D-TX-34]	D · TX		Jul 10, 2014
Rep. Barber, Ron [D-AZ-2]	D · AZ		Jul 24, 2014
Rep. Perlmutter, Ed [D-CO-7]	D · CO		Jul 24, 2014
Rep. Peterson, Collin C. [D-MN-7]	D · MN		Jul 24, 2014
Rep. Connolly, Gerald E. [D-VA-11]	D · VA		Jul 31, 2014
Rep. Beatty, Joyce [D-OH-3]	D · OH		Sep 16, 2014
Rep. Cicilline, David N. [D-RI-1]	D · RI		Sep 16, 2014
Rep. Polis, Jared [D-CO-2]	D · CO		Dec 11, 2014

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Armed Services Committee	House	Referred to	Jul 1, 2014
Veterans' Affairs Committee	House	Referred to	Jun 16, 2014

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Armed Forces and National Security

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
113 HR 5484	Related bill	Sep 29, 2014: Referred to the Subcommittee on Health.
113 S 2738	Related bill	Jul 31, 2014: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.
113 S 1602	Related bill	Oct 29, 2013: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

Toxic Exposure Research and Military Family Support Act of 2014 - Directs the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to:

- select a medical center in the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) to serve as the national center (Center) for the diagnosis, treatment, and research of health conditions of descendants (i.e., a biological child, grandchild, or great-grandchild) of individuals exposed to toxic substances while serving as members of the Armed Forces that are related to that exposure;
- establish an advisory board to advise the center, to determine which health conditions result from exposure to toxic substances, and to study and evaluate cases of exposure of current and former members of the Armed Forces to toxic substances; and
- establish an Office of Extramural Research to conduct research on wounds, illnesses, injuries, and other conditions suffered by active members of the Armed Forces resulting from exposure to toxic substances and to assist the Advisory Board in considering claims of exposure to toxic substances.

Requires the Center, in coordination with the National Birth Defect Registry, to track and research the genetic link between individuals who are exposed to Agent Orange and the medical conditions of their children.

Extends eligibility for medical care and caregiver assistance to descendants of a veteran who was exposed to toxic substances while serving as a member of the Armed Forces if: (1) the descendant has a health condition resulting from exposure to toxic substances and is homebound due to such condition, and (2) the veteran has or had the same health condition.

Authorizes the Secretary of Defense (DOD) to declassify documents (other than documents that would materially and immediately threaten national security) related to any known incident in which not less than 100 members of the Armed Forces were exposed to a toxic substance that resulted in at least one case of disability.

Directs the VA Secretary, the Secretary of Health and Human Services (HHS), and the DOD Secretary to jointly conduct a national outreach and education campaign directed at members of the Armed Forces, veterans, and their family members to communicate information on incidents of exposure to toxic substances, health conditions resulting from such exposure, and the potential long-term effects of such exposure.

Actions Timeline

- **Jul 1, 2014:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Military Personnel.
- **Jun 16, 2014:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Health.
- **Jun 9, 2014:** Introduced in House
- **Jun 9, 2014:** Referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs, and in addition to the Committee on Armed Services, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.