

S 901

Toxic Exposure Research Act of 2015

Congress: 114 (2015–2017, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Armed Forces and National Security

Introduced: Apr 13, 2015

Current Status: Committee on Veterans' Affairs. Hearings held. Hearings printed: S.Hrg. 114-186.

Latest Action: Committee on Veterans' Affairs. Hearings held. Hearings printed: S.Hrg. 114-186. (Jun 24, 2015)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/114th-congress/senate-bill/901>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Moran, Jerry [R-KS]

Party: Republican • **State:** KS • **Chamber:** Senate

Cosponsors (49 total)

| Cosponsor | Party / State | Role | Date Joined |
|------------------------------------|---------------|------|--------------|
| Sen. Blumenthal, Richard [D-CT] | D · CT | | Apr 13, 2015 |
| Sen. Tester, Jon [D-MT] | D · MT | | Apr 15, 2015 |
| Sen. Gillibrand, Kirsten E. [D-NY] | D · NY | | Apr 20, 2015 |
| Sen. Daines, Steve [R-MT] | R · MT | | Apr 27, 2015 |
| Sen. Durbin, Richard J. [D-IL] | D · IL | | May 14, 2015 |
| Sen. Schumer, Charles E. [D-NY] | D · NY | | Jun 9, 2015 |
| Sen. Brown, Sherrod [D-OH] | D · OH | | Jun 10, 2015 |
| Sen. Manchin, Joe, III [D-WV] | D · WV | | Jun 10, 2015 |
| Sen. Merkley, Jeff [D-OR] | D · OR | | Jun 10, 2015 |
| Sen. Wyden, Ron [D-OR] | D · OR | | Jun 17, 2015 |
| Sen. Roberts, Pat [R-KS] | R · KS | | Jun 22, 2015 |
| Sen. Crapo, Mike [R-ID] | R · ID | | Jun 23, 2015 |
| Sen. Stabenow, Debbie [D-MI] | D · MI | | Jul 7, 2015 |
| Sen. Blunt, Roy [R-MO] | R · MO | | Jul 30, 2015 |
| Sen. Casey, Robert P., Jr. [D-PA] | D · PA | | Aug 5, 2015 |
| Sen. Peters, Gary C. [D-MI] | D · MI | | Aug 5, 2015 |
| Sen. Shaheen, Jeanne [D-NH] | D · NH | | Aug 5, 2015 |
| Sen. Murphy, Christopher [D-CT] | D · CT | | Sep 17, 2015 |
| Sen. Sanders, Bernard [I-VT] | I · VT | | Sep 29, 2015 |
| Sen. Boozman, John [R-AR] | R · AR | | Oct 6, 2015 |
| Sen. Coons, Christopher A. [D-DE] | D · DE | | Oct 6, 2015 |
| Sen. Kaine, Tim [D-VA] | D · VA | | Nov 10, 2015 |
| Sen. Grassley, Chuck [R-IA] | R · IA | | Nov 16, 2015 |
| Sen. Klobuchar, Amy [D-MN] | D · MN | | Nov 16, 2015 |
| Sen. Warner, Mark R. [D-VA] | D · VA | | Dec 2, 2015 |
| Sen. McCaskill, Claire [D-MO] | D · MO | | Dec 10, 2015 |
| Sen. Boxer, Barbara [D-CA] | D · CA | | Dec 16, 2015 |
| Sen. Carper, Thomas R. [D-DE] | D · DE | | Jan 11, 2016 |
| Sen. Rounds, Mike [R-SD] | R · SD | | Jan 19, 2016 |
| Sen. Hirono, Mazie K. [D-HI] | D · HI | | Feb 3, 2016 |
| Sen. Bennet, Michael F. [D-CO] | D · CO | | Feb 9, 2016 |
| Sen. Collins, Susan M. [R-ME] | R · ME | | Feb 9, 2016 |
| Sen. Feinstein, Dianne [D-CA] | D · CA | | Feb 9, 2016 |
| Sen. Franken, Al [D-MN] | D · MN | | Feb 9, 2016 |
| Sen. Heller, Dean [R-NV] | R · NV | | Feb 10, 2016 |
| Sen. McCain, John [R-AZ] | R · AZ | | Feb 23, 2016 |
| Sen. Baldwin, Tammy [D-WI] | D · WI | | Mar 1, 2016 |
| Sen. Donnelly, Joe [D-IN] | D · IN | | Mar 1, 2016 |
| Sen. Burr, Richard [R-NC] | R · NC | | Mar 3, 2016 |
| Sen. Murkowski, Lisa [R-AK] | R · AK | | Mar 8, 2016 |
| Sen. Capito, Shelley Moore [R-WV] | R · WV | | Apr 4, 2016 |

| Cosponsor | Party / State | Role | Date Joined |
|---------------------------------|---------------|------|--------------|
| Sen. Leahy, Patrick J. [D-VT] | D · VT | | Apr 4, 2016 |
| Sen. Whitehouse, Sheldon [D-RI] | D · RI | | Apr 5, 2016 |
| Sen. Nelson, Bill [D-FL] | D · FL | | Apr 7, 2016 |
| Sen. Menendez, Robert [D-NJ] | D · NJ | | Apr 14, 2016 |
| Sen. Booker, Cory A. [D-NJ] | D · NJ | | Apr 18, 2016 |
| Sen. Warren, Elizabeth [D-MA] | D · MA | | Apr 27, 2016 |
| Sen. Schatz, Brian [D-HI] | D · HI | | May 9, 2016 |
| Sen. Rubio, Marco [R-FL] | R · FL | | Jun 29, 2016 |

Committee Activity

| Committee | Chamber | Activity | Date |
|-----------------------------|---------|------------------------------|--------------|
| Veterans' Affairs Committee | Senate | Hearings By (full committee) | Jun 24, 2015 |

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Armed Forces and National Security

Related Bills

| Bill | Relationship | Last Action |
|-------------|----------------|--|
| 114 HR 5286 | Related bill | Jun 9, 2016: Referred to the Subcommittee on Military Personnel. |
| 114 HR 1769 | Identical bill | May 24, 2016: Placed on the Union Calendar, Calendar No. 460. |

Toxic Exposure Research Act of 2015

Directs the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) to select a VA medical center to serve as the national center for research on the diagnosis and treatment of health conditions of the biological children, grandchildren, or great-grandchildren of individuals exposed to toxic substances while serving as members of the Armed Forces that are related to such exposure.

Requires: (1) the Department of Defense (DOD) or the head of a federal agency to make available to the VA for review records held by DOD, an Armed Force, or that federal agency that might assist the VA in making determinations regarding individuals and descendants afflicted with a health condition as a result of such exposure; (2) the VA and DOD or such agency head to jointly establish a mechanism for the availability and review of records by the VA; and (3) the national center to employ at least one licensed clinical social worker to coordinate access of individuals to appropriate social and health care programs and to handle case management.

Establishes an Advisory Board to oversee and assess the national center and to advise the VA regarding the center's work.

Directs DOD to declassify documents (other than documents that would materially and immediately threaten national security) related to any known incident in which at least 100 members of the Armed Forces were exposed to a toxic substance that resulted in at least one case of an associated disability.

Directs the VA to conduct a national outreach and education campaign directed toward members of the Armed Forces, veterans, and their family members to communicate information on: (1) incidents of exposure of members of the Armed Forces to toxic substances, health conditions resulting from such exposure, and the potential long-term effects; and (2) the national center. Requires DOD and the Department of Health and Human Services to assist the VA in implementing such campaign.

Actions Timeline

- **Jun 24, 2015:** Committee on Veterans' Affairs. Hearings held. Hearings printed: S.Hrg. 114-186.
- **Apr 13, 2015:** Introduced in Senate
- **Apr 13, 2015:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.