

HR 994

Radiation Exposure Compensation Act Amendments of 2015

Congress: 114 (2015–2017, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Labor and Employment

Introduced: Feb 13, 2015

Current Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on Workforce Protections.

Latest Action: Referred to the Subcommittee on Workforce Protections. (Apr 29, 2015)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/114th-congress/house-bill/994>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Lujan, Ben Ray [D-NM-3]

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

Cosponsors (19 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Grijalva, Raúl M. [D-AZ-3]	D · AZ		Feb 13, 2015
Rep. Kirkpatrick, Ann [D-AZ-1]	D · AZ		Feb 13, 2015
Rep. Lujan Grisham, Michelle [D-NM-1]	D · NM		Feb 13, 2015
Rep. Pearce, Stevan [R-NM-2]	R · NM		Feb 13, 2015
Rep. Perlmutter, Ed [D-CO-7]	D · CO		Feb 13, 2015
Rep. Titus, Dina [D-NV-1]	D · NV		Feb 13, 2015
Del. Bordallo, Madeleine Z. [D-GU-At Large]	D · GU		Apr 22, 2015
Rep. DeGette, Diana [D-CO-1]	D · CO		Jun 10, 2015
Rep. Cárdenas, Tony [D-CA-29]	D · CA		Jul 21, 2015
Rep. Rangel, Charles B. [D-NY-13]	D · NY		Jul 21, 2015
Rep. McGovern, James P. [D-MA-2]	D · MA		Jul 22, 2015
Rep. Polis, Jared [D-CO-2]	D · CO		Jul 28, 2015
Rep. Kilmer, Derek [D-WA-6]	D · WA		Jul 29, 2015
Rep. Hastings, Alcee L. [D-FL-20]	D · FL		Nov 16, 2015
Rep. Higgins, Brian [D-NY-26]	D · NY		Nov 16, 2015
Rep. Jackson Lee, Sheila [D-TX-18]	D · TX		Nov 16, 2015
Rep. Gallego, Ruben [D-AZ-7]	D · AZ		Jan 11, 2016
Rep. DelBene, Suzan K. [D-WA-1]	D · WA		Feb 1, 2016
Rep. Heck, Denny [D-WA-10]	D · WA		Nov 29, 2016

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Education and Workforce Committee	House	Referred to	Apr 29, 2015
Energy and Commerce Committee	House	Referred to	Feb 20, 2015
Judiciary Committee	House	Referred to	Mar 16, 2015

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Labor and Employment

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
114 S 331	Related bill	Feb 2, 2015: Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Summary (as of Feb 13, 2015)

Radiation Exposure Compensation Act Amendments of 2015

Amends the Radiation Exposure Compensation Act to extend the Radiation Exposure Compensation Trust Fund until 19 years after enactment of this Act.

Prescribes additional periods of required presence in an affected area during atmospheric nuclear testing for individuals filing leukemia or specified disease claims. Increases the amount of compensation an individual filing a claim may receive to \$150,000.

Expands "affected area" to include Colorado, Idaho, Montana, and New Mexico, as well as any county in Arizona, Nevada, or Utah.

Extends to December 31, 1990, the period during which an individual employed at any time in a uranium mine or uranium mill is made eligible to receive compensation for a disease claim due to radiation exposure. Makes a core driller eligible to receive compensation upon filing of a disease claim.

Makes miners, core drillers, and ore transporters who suffer renal cancer or any other chronic renal disease, including nephritis and kidney tubal tissue injury, eligible for compensation due to exposure to radiation while on the job.

Requires the Attorney General to accept written affidavits meeting specified requirements regarding employment history, physical presence in an affected area, or participation at a nuclear testing site in determining the eligibility of claimants.

Extends until 19 years after enactment of this Act the statute of limitations for the filing of such claims.

Increases from 2% to 10% of the payment received by a claimant the maximum amount of attorneys fees that can be charged for the filing of an initial claim.

Directs the Secretary of Health and Human Services, through the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences, to establish a program of grants to institutions of higher education to study the epidemiological impacts of uranium mining and milling among non-occupationally exposed individuals, including family members of uranium miners and millers.

Amends the Energy Employees Occupational Illness Compensation Program Act of 2000 to include as a member of the Special Exposure Cohort entitled to compensation with respect to chronic beryllium disease under the Energy Employees Occupational Illness Compensation Program any Department of Energy employee or contractor who contracted cancer after beginning employment between January 1, 1942, and December 31, 1990, in a uranium mine or mill located in Colorado, New Mexico, Arizona, Wyoming, South Dakota, Washington, Utah, Idaho, North Dakota, Oregon, Texas, or any other state the Attorney General includes.

Actions Timeline

- **Apr 29, 2015:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Workforce Protections.
- **Mar 16, 2015:** Referred to the Subcommittee on the Constitution and Civil Justice.
- **Feb 20, 2015:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Energy and Power.
- **Feb 13, 2015:** Introduced in House
- **Feb 13, 2015:** Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committees on Education and the Workforce, and Energy and Commerce, 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.