

HR 334

Victims of Agent Orange Relief Act of 2017

Congress: 115 (2017–2019, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: International Affairs

Introduced: Jan 5, 2017

Current Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on Disability Assistance and Memorial Affairs.

Latest Action: Referred to the Subcommittee on Disability Assistance and Memorial Affairs. (Feb 3, 2017)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/house-bill/334>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Lee, Barbara [D-CA-13]

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

Cosponsors (26 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Conyers, John, Jr. [D-MI-13]	D · MI		Jan 5, 2017
Rep. Ellison, Keith [D-MN-5]	D · MN		Jan 5, 2017
Rep. Grijalva, Raúl M. [D-AZ-3]	D · AZ		Jan 5, 2017
Rep. Hastings, Alcee L. [D-FL-20]	D · FL		Jan 5, 2017
Rep. Nadler, Jerrold [D-NY-10]	D · NY		Jan 5, 2017
Rep. Serrano, Jose E. [D-NY-15]	D · NY		Jan 5, 2017
Rep. Cohen, Steve [D-TN-9]	D · TN		Jan 10, 2017
Rep. McGovern, James P. [D-MA-2]	D · MA		Jan 10, 2017
Rep. Pingree, Chellie [D-ME-1]	D · ME		Jan 10, 2017
Rep. Ryan, Tim [D-OH-13]	D · OH		Jan 10, 2017
Rep. Chu, Judy [D-CA-27]	D · CA		Jan 17, 2017
Rep. Garamendi, John [D-CA-3]	D · CA		Jan 17, 2017
Rep. Meng, Grace [D-NY-6]	D · NY		Jan 17, 2017
Rep. Roybal-Allard, Lucille [D-CA-40]	D · CA		Jan 17, 2017
Rep. Velazquez, Nydia M. [D-NY-7]	D · NY		Jan 17, 2017
Rep. Langevin, James R. [D-RI-2]	D · RI		Jan 23, 2017
Rep. Vargas, Juan [D-CA-51]	D · CA		Jan 23, 2017
Rep. Dingell, Debbie [D-MI-12]	D · MI		Jan 27, 2017
Rep. Soto, Darren [D-FL-9]	D · FL		Jan 27, 2017
Rep. Jayapal, Pramila [D-WA-7]	D · WA		Feb 1, 2017
Rep. Capuano, Michael E. [D-MA-7]	D · MA		Feb 6, 2017
Rep. Pallone, Frank, Jr. [D-NJ-6]	D · NJ		Feb 6, 2017
Rep. Pocan, Mark [D-WI-2]	D · WI		Feb 6, 2017
Rep. Maloney, Sean Patrick [D-NY-18]	D · NY		Aug 17, 2018
Rep. Huffman, Jared [D-CA-2]	D · CA		Sep 27, 2018
Rep. Thompson, Mike [D-CA-5]	D · CA		Dec 12, 2018

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Energy and Commerce Committee	House	Referred to	Jan 25, 2017
Foreign Affairs Committee	House	Referred To	Jan 5, 2017
Veterans' Affairs Committee	House	Referred to	Feb 3, 2017

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

International Affairs

Related Bills

No related bills are listed.

Victims of Agent Orange Relief Act of 2017

This bill directs the Department of State shall provide assistance: (1) to address the health care needs of covered individuals, (2) to institutions in Vietnam that provide health care to such individuals, (3) to repair and rebuild substandard homes in Vietnam for covered individuals and their families, and (4) to remediate geographic areas of Vietnam that contain high levels of Agent Orange.

A "covered individual" is defined as an individual who is a Vietnam resident and who: (1) is affected by health issues related to Agent Orange exposure which took place between January 1, 1961, and May 7, 1975; (2) lives or had lived in or near geographic areas in Vietnam that continue to contain high levels of Agent Orange; or (3) is the child or descendant of such an individual and is affected by such health issues.

State and the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) shall provide assistance to support research relating to health issues of individuals affected by Agent Orange.

The Department of Health and Human Services shall: (1) make grants to appropriate public health organizations and Vietnamese-American organizations to conduct a broad health assessment of Vietnamese-Americans who may have been exposed to Agent Orange and their children or descendants; and (2) establish centers in U.S. locations where large populations of Vietnamese-Americans reside to provide assessment, counseling, and treatment for conditions related to Agent Orange exposure.

The bill amends veterans benefits provisions to provide benefits to the children of male (currently only female) Vietnam veterans who are affected by certain birth defects. The VA shall require any health care provider with whom the VA enters into a contract for the provision of health care to such children to provide the VA access to the medical records of such children for research into the intergenerational effects of Agent Orange exposure.

Actions Timeline

- **Feb 3, 2017:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Disability Assistance and Memorial Affairs.
- **Jan 25, 2017:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Health.
- **Jan 5, 2017:** Introduced in House
- **Jan 5, 2017:** Referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs, and in addition to the Committees on Energy and Commerce, and Foreign Affairs, 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.

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