

S 4429

K2 Veterans Toxic Exposure Accountability Act of 2020

Congress: 116 (2019–2021, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Armed Forces and National Security

Introduced: Aug 4, 2020

Current Status: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

Latest Action: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs. (Aug 4, 2020)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/senate-bill/4429>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Blackburn, Marsha [R-TN]

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

Cosponsors (9 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Baldwin, Tammy [D-WI]	D · WI		Aug 4, 2020
Sen. Feinstein, Dianne [D-CA]	D · CA		Aug 4, 2020
Sen. Markey, Edward J. [D-MA]	D · MA		Sep 17, 2020
Sen. Capito, Shelley Moore [R-WV]	R · WV		Sep 30, 2020
Sen. Klobuchar, Amy [D-MN]	D · MN		Oct 19, 2020
Sen. Warren, Elizabeth [D-MA]	D · MA		Oct 19, 2020
Sen. Bennet, Michael F. [D-CO]	D · CO		Oct 22, 2020
Sen. Heinrich, Martin [D-NM]	D · NM		Nov 9, 2020
Sen. Shaheen, Jeanne [D-NH]	D · NH		Dec 2, 2020

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Veterans' Affairs Committee	Senate	Referred To	Aug 4, 2020

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Armed Forces and National Security

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
116 HR 5957	Related bill	Feb 25, 2020: 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.

K2 Veterans Toxic Exposure Accountability Act of 2020

This bill addresses the exposure of members of the Armed Forces to toxic substances at Karshi-Khanabad (K2) Air Base in Uzbekistan between October 1, 2001, and December 31, 2005.

Specifically, the bill requires the Department of Defense (DOD) to study and report on the exposure of members of the Armed Forces to toxic substances at K2 Air Base during the specified period.

The bill also expands the definition of an open burn pit, for purposes of the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) open burn pit registry, to include burn pits located on land in Uzbekistan. A burn pit is an area used for burning solid waste in open air without equipment.

DOD and the VA must ensure that individuals deployed to K2 Air Base during the specified time period are covered by the Depleted Uranium Follow-Up Programs of the departments. Such programs study the health effects of depleted uranium exposure and provide treatment.

Upon request by the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine, DOD and the VA must provide information for the performance of a study on the exposure of humans to toxic substances at K2 Air Base during the specified period.

Actions Timeline

- **Aug 4, 2020:** Introduced in Senate
- **Aug 4, 2020:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.