

HR 5957

K2 Veterans Toxic Exposure Accountability Act of 2020

Congress: 116 (2019–2021, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Armed Forces and National Security

Introduced: Feb 25, 2020

Current Status: Referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs, and in addition to the Committee on Armed Services,

Latest Action: 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. (Feb 25, 2020)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-bill/5957>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Green, Mark E. [R-TN-7]

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

Cosponsors (78 total)

| Cosponsor | Party / State | Role | Date Joined |
|-------------------------------------------------|----------------------|-------------|--------------------|
| Rep. Lynch, Stephen F. [D-MA-8] | D · MA | | Feb 25, 2020 |
| Del. Norton, Eleanor Holmes [D-DC-At Large] | D · DC | | Mar 10, 2020 |
| Rep. Babin, Brian [R-TX-36] | R · TX | | Mar 10, 2020 |
| Rep. Bishop, Sanford D., Jr. [D-GA-2] | D · GA | | Mar 10, 2020 |
| Rep. Gohmert, Louie [R-TX-1] | R · TX | | Mar 10, 2020 |
| Rep. Grijalva, Raúl M. [D-AZ-3] | D · AZ | | Mar 10, 2020 |
| Rep. Grothman, Glenn [R-WI-6] | R · WI | | Mar 10, 2020 |
| Rep. Hice, Jody B. [R-GA-10] | R · GA | | Mar 10, 2020 |
| Rep. King, Steve [R-IA-4] | R · IA | | Mar 10, 2020 |
| Rep. Massie, Thomas [R-KY-4] | R · KY | | Mar 10, 2020 |
| Rep. McMorris Rodgers, Cathy [R-WA-5] | R · WA | | Mar 10, 2020 |
| Rep. Norman, Ralph [R-SC-5] | R · SC | | Mar 10, 2020 |
| Rep. Omar, Ilhan [D-MN-5] | D · MN | | Mar 10, 2020 |
| Rep. Pappas, Chris [D-NH-1] | D · NH | | Mar 10, 2020 |
| Rep. Raskin, Jamie [D-MD-8] | D · MD | | Mar 10, 2020 |
| Rep. Ryan, Tim [D-OH-13] | D · OH | | Mar 10, 2020 |
| Rep. Sensenbrenner, F. James, Jr. [R-WI-5] | R · WI | | Mar 10, 2020 |
| Rep. Watkins, Steve [R-KS-2] | R · KS | | Mar 10, 2020 |
| Rep. Bustos, Cheri [D-IL-17] | D · IL | | Mar 11, 2020 |
| Rep. Byrne, Bradley [R-AL-1] | R · AL | | Mar 11, 2020 |
| Rep. Crenshaw, Dan [R-TX-2] | R · TX | | Mar 11, 2020 |
| Del. San Nicolas, Michael F. Q. [D-GU-At Large] | D · GU | | Apr 28, 2020 |
| Rep. Craig, Angie [D-MN-2] | D · MN | | Apr 28, 2020 |
| Rep. DelBene, Suzan K. [D-WA-1] | D · WA | | Apr 28, 2020 |
| Rep. Gaetz, Matt [R-FL-1] | R · FL | | Apr 28, 2020 |
| Rep. Murphy, Gregory [R-NC-3] | R · NC | | Apr 28, 2020 |
| Rep. Olson, Pete [R-TX-22] | R · TX | | Apr 28, 2020 |
| Rep. Stanton, Greg [D-AZ-9] | D · AZ | | Apr 28, 2020 |
| Rep. Taylor, Van [R-TX-3] | R · TX | | Apr 28, 2020 |
| Rep. Trone, David J. [D-MD-6] | D · MD | | Apr 28, 2020 |
| Rep. Webster, Daniel [R-FL-11] | R · FL | | Apr 28, 2020 |
| Rep. Gosar, Paul A. [R-AZ-4] | R · AZ | | Jun 18, 2020 |
| Rep. Graves, Sam [R-MO-6] | R · MO | | Jun 18, 2020 |
| Rep. Ruppertsberger, C. A. Dutch [D-MD-2] | D · MD | | Jun 18, 2020 |
| Rep. Van Drew, Jefferson [R-NJ-2] | R · NJ | | Jun 18, 2020 |
| Rep. Cooper, Jim [D-TN-5] | D · TN | | Jul 9, 2020 |
| Rep. Gabbard, Tulsi [D-HI-2] | D · HI | | Jul 30, 2020 |
| Rep. Hudson, Richard [R-NC-8] | R · NC | | Jul 30, 2020 |
| Rep. Kelly, Trent [R-MS-1] | R · MS | | Jul 30, 2020 |
| Rep. Mast, Brian J. [R-FL-18] | R · FL | | Jul 30, 2020 |
| Rep. McAdams, Ben [D-UT-4] | D · UT | | Jul 30, 2020 |

| Cosponsor | Party / State | Role | Date Joined |
|-------------------------------------------|---------------|------|--------------|
| Rep. Posey, Bill [R-FL-8] | R · FL | | Jul 30, 2020 |
| Rep. Rouda, Harley [D-CA-48] | D · CA | | Jul 30, 2020 |
| Rep. Bilirakis, Gus M. [R-FL-12] | R · FL | | Sep 4, 2020 |
| Rep. Lee, Susie [D-NV-3] | D · NV | | Sep 4, 2020 |
| Rep. Slotkin, Elissa [D-MI-8] | D · MI | | Sep 4, 2020 |
| Rep. Lesko, Debbie [R-AZ-8] | R · AZ | | Sep 24, 2020 |
| Rep. Peterson, Collin C. [D-MN-7] | D · MN | | Sep 24, 2020 |
| Rep. Schrier, Kim [D-WA-8] | D · WA | | Sep 24, 2020 |
| Rep. McGovern, James P. [D-MA-2] | D · MA | | Sep 30, 2020 |
| Rep. Hastings, Alcee L. [D-FL-20] | D · FL | | Oct 13, 2020 |
| Rep. Kim, Andy [D-NJ-3] | D · NJ | | Oct 13, 2020 |
| Rep. Palazzo, Steven M. [R-MS-4] | R · MS | | Oct 13, 2020 |
| Rep. Phillips, Dean [D-MN-3] | D · MN | | Oct 13, 2020 |
| Rep. Stauber, Pete [R-MN-8] | R · MN | | Oct 13, 2020 |
| Rep. Yoho, Ted S. [R-FL-3] | R · FL | | Oct 13, 2020 |
| Rep. Gooden, Lance [R-TX-5] | R · TX | | Oct 16, 2020 |
| Rep. Hagedorn, Jim [R-MN-1] | R · MN | | Oct 16, 2020 |
| Rep. Harder, Josh [D-CA-10] | D · CA | | Oct 16, 2020 |
| Rep. Heck, Denny [D-WA-10] | D · WA | | Oct 16, 2020 |
| Rep. Price, David E. [D-NC-4] | D · NC | | Oct 16, 2020 |
| Rep. Steube, W. Gregory [R-FL-17] | R · FL | | Oct 16, 2020 |
| Rep. Tiffany, Thomas P. [R-WI-7] | R · WI | | Oct 23, 2020 |
| Rep. Turner, Michael R. [R-OH-10] | R · OH | | Oct 23, 2020 |
| Rep. Bacon, Don [R-NE-2] | R · NE | | Oct 30, 2020 |
| Rep. Davidson, Warren [R-OH-8] | R · OH | | Oct 30, 2020 |
| Rep. Gianforte, Greg [R-MT-At Large] | R · MT | | Oct 30, 2020 |
| Rep. Neguse, Joe [D-CO-2] | D · CO | | Oct 30, 2020 |
| Rep. Tlaib, Rashida [D-MI-13] | D · MI | | Oct 30, 2020 |
| Rep. Cisneros, Gilbert Ray, Jr. [D-CA-39] | D · CA | | Nov 5, 2020 |
| Rep. Payne, Donald M., Jr. [D-NJ-10] | D · NJ | | Nov 5, 2020 |
| Rep. Foster, Bill [D-IL-11] | D · IL | | Nov 16, 2020 |
| Rep. Pocan, Mark [D-WI-2] | D · WI | | Nov 16, 2020 |
| Rep. Rose, John W. [R-TN-6] | R · TN | | Nov 16, 2020 |
| Rep. Maloney, Carolyn B. [D-NY-12] | D · NY | | Nov 18, 2020 |
| Rep. Emmer, Tom [R-MN-6] | R · MN | | Dec 18, 2020 |
| Rep. Gallagher, Mike [R-WI-8] | R · WI | | Dec 18, 2020 |
| Rep. Kind, Ron [D-WI-3] | D · WI | | Dec 18, 2020 |

Committee Activity

| Committee | Chamber | Activity | Date |
|-----------------------------|---------|-------------|--------------|
| Armed Services Committee | House | Referred To | Feb 25, 2020 |
| Veterans' Affairs Committee | House | Referred To | Feb 25, 2020 |

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Armed Forces and National Security

Related Bills

| Bill | Relationship | Last Action |
|------------|--------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 116 S 4429 | Related bill | Aug 4, 2020: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs. |

Summary (as of Feb 25, 2020)

K2 Veterans Toxic Exposure Accountability Act of 2020

This bill addresses toxic exposure of members of the Armed Forces deployed to Karshi-Khanabad (K-2) Air Base in Uzbekistan between October 1, 2001, and December 31, 2005.

Specifically, the bill requires the Department of Defense (DOD) to conduct a study and report on such exposure. Based on the results of the study, the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) must determine (1) whether a positive association exists between such exposure and the occurrence of a diagnosed illness in humans, and (2) whether a presumption of service-connection is warranted. Under a presumption of service-connection, specific conditions diagnosed in certain veterans are presumed to have been caused by the circumstances of their military service. Health care benefits and disability compensation may then be awarded.

If the VA determines a presumption of service-connection is not warranted, notice must be published and include an explanation of the basis for the determination. The bill also requires the VA to remove previous presumptions if evidence indicates such presumption is not warranted.

The bill requires the VA to establish and maintain a registry for individuals who were deployed to K-2 during the specified time frame.

Finally, DOD must provide access to information upon request by the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine for purposes of a study regarding the effects of exposure to toxic substances at K-2.

Actions Timeline

- **Feb 25, 2020:** Introduced in House
- **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.