

HR 2372

Presumptive Benefits for War Fighters Exposed to Burn Pits and Other Toxins Act of 2021

Congress: 117 (2021–2023, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Armed Forces and National Security

Introduced: Apr 5, 2021

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

Latest Action: Referred to the Subcommittee on Disability Assistance and Memorial Affairs. (Jun 22, 2021)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/2372>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Ruiz, Raul [D-CA-36]

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

Cosponsors (36 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Fitzpatrick, Brian K. [R-PA-1]	R · PA		Apr 5, 2021
Rep. Suozzi, Thomas R. [D-NY-3]	D · NY		Apr 5, 2021
Rep. Slotkin, Elissa [D-MI-8]	D · MI		Apr 8, 2021
Del. Norton, Eleanor Holmes [D-DC-At Large]	D · DC		Apr 12, 2021
Rep. Garbarino, Andrew R. [R-NY-2]	R · NY		Apr 12, 2021
Rep. Ryan, Tim [D-OH-13]	D · OH		Apr 15, 2021
Rep. Levin, Andy [D-MI-9]	D · MI		Apr 16, 2021
Rep. Dingell, Debbie [D-MI-12]	D · MI		Apr 21, 2021
Rep. Kahele, Kaiali'i [D-HI-2]	D · HI		Apr 21, 2021
Rep. Gonzales, Tony [R-TX-23]	R · TX		May 7, 2021
Rep. Latta, Robert E. [R-OH-5]	R · OH		May 7, 2021
Rep. Morelle, Joseph D. [D-NY-25]	D · NY		May 7, 2021
Rep. Tlaib, Rashida [D-MI-13]	D · MI		May 7, 2021
Rep. Turner, Michael R. [R-OH-10]	R · OH		May 7, 2021
Rep. Gallego, Ruben [D-AZ-7]	D · AZ		May 13, 2021
Rep. Meijer, Peter [R-MI-3]	R · MI		May 13, 2021
Rep. Stevens, Haley M. [D-MI-11]	D · MI		May 13, 2021
Rep. Katko, John [R-NY-24]	R · NY		May 17, 2021
Rep. Lawrence, Brenda L. [D-MI-14]	D · MI		May 17, 2021
Rep. Vela, Filemon [D-TX-34]	D · TX		May 25, 2021
Rep. Welch, Peter [D-VT-At Large]	D · VT		May 25, 2021
Rep. Aguilar, Pete [D-CA-31]	D · CA		Jun 14, 2021
Rep. Courtney, Joe [D-CT-2]	D · CT		Jun 14, 2021
Rep. Grijalva, Raúl M. [D-AZ-3]	D · AZ		Jun 14, 2021
Rep. Spartz, Victoria [R-IN-5]	R · IN		Jun 14, 2021
Rep. Castro, Joaquin [D-TX-20]	D · TX		Jun 15, 2021
Rep. Emmer, Tom [R-MN-6]	R · MN		Jun 17, 2021
Rep. Young, Don [R-AK-At Large]	R · AK		Jun 22, 2021
Rep. Kilmer, Derek [D-WA-6]	D · WA		Jun 23, 2021
Rep. Blunt Rochester, Lisa [D-DE-At Large]	D · DE		Oct 8, 2021
Rep. Murphy, Stephanie N. [D-FL-7]	D · FL		Nov 1, 2021
Rep. Scanlon, Mary Gay [D-PA-5]	D · PA		Nov 1, 2021
Rep. Wild, Susan [D-PA-7]	D · PA		Nov 4, 2021
Rep. Manning, Kathy E. [D-NC-6]	D · NC		Nov 16, 2021
Rep. Kim, Andy [D-NJ-3]	D · NJ		Nov 30, 2021
Rep. Norcross, Donald [D-NJ-1]	D · NJ		Feb 22, 2022

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Education and Workforce Committee	House	Referred To	Apr 5, 2021
Veterans' Affairs Committee	House	Referred to	Jun 22, 2021

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Armed Forces and National Security

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
117 S 952	Related bill	Apr 28, 2021: Committee on Veterans' Affairs. Hearings held.

Summary (as of Apr 5, 2021)

Presumptive Benefits for War Fighters Exposed to Burn Pits and Other Toxins Act of 2021

This bill establishes a presumption of service-connection for specified diseases associated with exposure to burn pits (an area used for burning solid waste in open air without equipment) and other toxins by veterans who were awarded specified medals on or after August 2, 1990. 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.

Under the bill, if the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) receives a written petition to add a disease to the list, the VA must request a determination by the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine with respect to whether there is a positive association between the exposure of humans to a covered toxin and the occurrence of the disease in humans.

The bill makes disability or death of certain employees from specified diseases compensable as a work injury. Specifically, such employees are those who were employees of the Department of State, the Department of Defense, or an element of the intelligence community on or after August 2, 1990, and carried out job responsibilities for at least 30 days during a contingency operation.

Actions Timeline

- **Jun 22, 2021:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Disability Assistance and Memorial Affairs.
- **Apr 5, 2021:** Introduced in House
- **Apr 5, 2021:** Referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs, and in addition to the Committee on Education and Labor, 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.