

S 2798

Radiation Exposure Compensation Act Amendments of 2021

Congress: 117 (2021–2023, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Labor and Employment

Introduced: Sep 22, 2021

Current Status: Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Latest Action: Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary. (Sep 22, 2021)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/senate-bill/2798>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Crapo, Mike [R-ID]

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

Cosponsors (24 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Bennet, Michael F. [D-CO]	D · CO		Sep 22, 2021
Sen. Booker, Cory A. [D-NJ]	D · NJ		Sep 22, 2021
Sen. Cortez Masto, Catherine [D-NV]	D · NV		Sep 22, 2021
Sen. Hassan, Margaret Wood [D-NH]	D · NH		Sep 22, 2021
Sen. Heinrich, Martin [D-NM]	D · NM		Sep 22, 2021
Sen. Kelly, Mark [D-AZ]	D · AZ		Sep 22, 2021
Sen. Lujan, Ben Ray [D-NM]	D · NM		Sep 22, 2021
Sen. Risch, James E. [R-ID]	R · ID		Sep 22, 2021
Sen. Rosen, Jacky [D-NV]	D · NV		Sep 22, 2021
Sen. Sinema, Kyrsten [D-AZ]	D · AZ		Sep 27, 2021
Sen. Tester, Jon [D-MT]	D · MT		Oct 18, 2021
Sen. Warnock, Raphael G. [D-GA]	D · GA		Nov 4, 2021
Sen. Gillibrand, Kirsten E. [D-NY]	D · NY		Dec 7, 2021
Sen. Sullivan, Dan [R-AK]	R · AK		Dec 13, 2021
Sen. Lummis, Cynthia M. [R-WY]	R · WY		Jan 13, 2022
Sen. Murray, Patty [D-WA]	D · WA		Feb 3, 2022
Sen. Hickenlooper, John W. [D-CO]	D · CO		Feb 7, 2022
Sen. Markey, Edward J. [D-MA]	D · MA		Apr 27, 2022
Sen. Brown, Sherrod [D-OH]	D · OH		Jul 11, 2022
Sen. Merkley, Jeff [D-OR]	D · OR		Jul 26, 2022
Sen. Smith, Tina [D-MN]	D · MN		Sep 14, 2022
Sen. Klobuchar, Amy [D-MN]	D · MN		Sep 27, 2022
Sen. Feinstein, Dianne [D-CA]	D · CA		Nov 14, 2022
Sen. Wyden, Ron [D-OR]	D · OR		Nov 14, 2022

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Judiciary Committee	Senate	Referred To	Sep 22, 2021

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Labor and Employment

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
117 HR 5338	Identical bill	Dec 8, 2021: Ordered to be Reported (Amended) by the Yeas and Nays: 25 - 8.

Summary (as of Sep 22, 2021)

Radiation Exposure Compensation Act Amendments of 2021

This bill expands two programs that compensate individuals who were exposed to radiation during certain nuclear testing or uranium mining and subsequently developed medical conditions, including cancers.

First, the bill expands and extends a program that compensates individuals who were exposed to radiation from atmospheric nuclear testing or other sources and subsequently developed specified cancers. Under current law, this program compensates individuals who were present in a designated geographic area during a period of nuclear testing and certain individuals employed in uranium mining. The bill

- expands the designated areas to include Colorado, Idaho, Montana, New Mexico, and Guam and additional areas in Arizona, Nevada, and Utah;
- makes more individuals who worked in uranium mining eligible for the program;
- increases the amount of compensation awarded to and provides medical benefits for eligible claimants; and
- extends for 19 years following the bill's enactment the fund that supports this program and the statute of limitations for filing claims (currently, the program terminates on July 10, 2022).

Second, the bill makes certain individuals employed in uranium mines or mills eligible for a program that compensates workers, including Department of Energy employees and contractors, for illnesses caused by occupational exposure to radiation and hazardous substances during development and testing of the nation's nuclear weapons stockpile.

The bill also establishes a grant program in the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences for institutions of higher education to study the epidemiological impacts of uranium mining and milling among individuals without occupational exposure.

Actions Timeline

- **Sep 22, 2021:** Introduced in Senate
- **Sep 22, 2021:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.