

## S 3372

A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to strengthen benefits for children of Vietnam veterans born with spina bifida, and for other purposes.

**Congress:** 117 (2021–2023, Ended)

**Chamber:** Senate

**Policy Area:** Armed Forces and National Security

**Introduced:** Dec 9, 2021

**Current Status:** Committee on Veterans' Affairs. Hearings held.

**Latest Action:** Committee on Veterans' Affairs. Hearings held. (Jul 13, 2022)

**Official Text:** <https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/senate-bill/3372>

### Sponsor

**Name:** Sen. Braun, Mike [R-IN]

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

### Cosponsors (3 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Rubio, Marco [R-FL]	R · FL		Dec 9, 2021
Sen. Hassan, Margaret Wood [D-NH]	D · NH		Jul 11, 2022
Sen. Booker, Cory A. [D-NJ]	D · NJ		Dec 7, 2022

### Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Veterans' Affairs Committee	Senate	Hearings By (full committee)	Jul 13, 2022

### Subjects & Policy Tags

#### Policy Area:

Armed Forces and National Security

### Related Bills

No related bills are listed.

This bill addresses Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) benefits and care for covered children. Under the bill, a *covered child* is an individual, regardless of age or marital status, who is the natural child of a Vietnam veteran or a veteran of specified service in Korea or Thailand who was conceived after the date on which the veteran entered service in Vietnam, Korea, or Thailand.

The bill requires the VA to establish an advisory council on health care and benefits for covered children. Additionally, the VA must establish care and coordination teams for covered children. At least every 180 days, the teams must conduct outreach to ensure the continued care of the children and assist with any necessary changes in care.

The VA must report to Congress a list of conditions that will trigger outreach to covered children, and contact such children as soon as practicable after the identification of a condition.

The bill requires the VA to provide a covered child with health care and benefits for the duration of the child's life, regardless of the death of a parent preceding the death of the child.

The Veterans Benefits Administration and the Veterans Health Administration must enter into a memorandum of understanding to better assist covered children and establish conditions to be included in the report required by this bill.

## **Actions Timeline**

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- **Jul 13, 2022:** Committee on Veterans' Affairs. Hearings held.
- **Dec 9, 2021:** Introduced in Senate
- **Dec 9, 2021:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.