

S 454

K2 Veterans Care Act of 2021

Congress: 117 (2021–2023, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Armed Forces and National Security

Introduced: Feb 25, 2021

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

Latest Action: Committee on Veterans' Affairs. Hearings held. (Apr 28, 2021)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/senate-bill/454>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Blumenthal, Richard [D-CT]

Party: Democratic • **State:** CT • **Chamber:** Senate

Cosponsors (8 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Baldwin, Tammy [D-WI]	D · WI		Feb 25, 2021
Sen. Brown, Sherrod [D-OH]	D · OH		Feb 25, 2021
Sen. Feinstein, Dianne [D-CA]	D · CA		Feb 25, 2021
Sen. Menendez, Robert [D-NJ]	D · NJ		Feb 25, 2021
Sen. Shaheen, Jeanne [D-NH]	D · NH		Mar 3, 2021
Sen. Wicker, Roger F. [R-MS]	R · MS		Apr 15, 2021
Sen. Peters, Gary C. [D-MI]	D · MI		Jun 16, 2021
Sen. Duckworth, Tammy [D-IL]	D · IL		Jul 15, 2021

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Veterans' Affairs Committee	Senate	Hearings By (full committee)	Apr 28, 2021

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Armed Forces and National Security

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
117 HR 1355	Identical bill	Feb 25, 2021: Referred to the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

K2 Veterans Care Act of 2021

This bill establishes a presumption of service-connection for certain diseases becoming manifest in a veteran who served on active duty at Karshi-Khanabad (K2) Air Base in Uzbekistan between January 1, 2001, and December 31, 2005. Specifically, there must be a presumption of service-connection for veterans who manifest illnesses that have a positive association with exposure to jet fuel, volatile organic compounds, high levels of particulate matter, depleted uranium, asbestos, or lead-based paint, as determined by the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine (NASEM). 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.

Veterans who served at K2 Air Base during the specified period are eligible for Department of Veterans Affairs hospital care, medical services, and nursing home care for an illness that has been determined by NASEM to have a positive association with exposure to jet fuel, volatile organic compounds, high levels of particulate matter, depleted uranium, asbestos, or lead-based paint.

Actions Timeline

- **Apr 28, 2021:** Committee on Veterans' Affairs. Hearings held.
- **Feb 25, 2021:** Introduced in Senate
- **Feb 25, 2021:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.