

S 657

A bill to modify the presumption of service connection for veterans who were exposed to herbicide agents while serving in the Armed Forces in Thailand during the Vietnam era, and for other purposes.

Congress: 117 (2021–2023, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Armed Forces and National Security

Introduced: Mar 10, 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/657>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Boozman, John [R-AR]

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

Cosponsors (21 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Braun, Mike [R-IN]	R · IN		Mar 10, 2021
Sen. Gillibrand, Kirsten E. [D-NY]	D · NY		Mar 10, 2021
Sen. Hassan, Margaret Wood [D-NH]	D · NH		Mar 10, 2021
Sen. Portman, Rob [R-OH]	R · OH		Mar 10, 2021
Sen. Tester, Jon [D-MT]	D · MT		Mar 10, 2021
Sen. Warren, Elizabeth [D-MA]	D · MA		Mar 10, 2021
Sen. Wyden, Ron [D-OR]	D · OR		Mar 10, 2021
Sen. Markey, Edward J. [D-MA]	D · MA		Apr 14, 2021
Sen. Sullivan, Dan [R-AK]	R · AK		Apr 14, 2021
Sen. Peters, Gary C. [D-MI]	D · MI		Apr 22, 2021
Sen. Warnock, Raphael G. [D-GA]	D · GA		Apr 22, 2021
Sen. Tillis, Thomas [R-NC]	R · NC		Apr 29, 2021
Sen. Rosen, Jacky [D-NV]	D · NV		May 17, 2021
Sen. Baldwin, Tammy [D-WI]	D · WI		May 20, 2021
Sen. Cortez Masto, Catherine [D-NV]	D · NV		Jun 15, 2021
Sen. Booker, Cory A. [D-NJ]	D · NJ		Jul 12, 2021
Sen. Feinstein, Dianne [D-CA]	D · CA		Sep 13, 2021
Sen. Coons, Christopher A. [D-DE]	D · DE		Oct 7, 2021
Sen. Brown, Sherrod [D-OH]	D · OH		Oct 27, 2021
Sen. Stabenow, Debbie [D-MI]	D · MI		Nov 17, 2021
Sen. Crapo, Mike [R-ID]	R · ID		Feb 9, 2022

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 2269	Identical bill	Jun 22, 2021: Referred to the Subcommittee on Disability Assistance and Memorial Affairs.

Summary (as of Mar 10, 2021)

This bill requires the Department of Veterans Affairs to ensure that, if it creates a presumption of service-connection between the occurrence of a disease and exposure to an herbicide agent while serving in the Armed Forces between January 9, 1962, and June 30, 1976, at a military base in Thailand, such presumption must also apply to exposure at any military base in Thailand, regardless of where on the base the veteran was located or what military job specialty the veteran performed.

Actions Timeline

- **Apr 28, 2021:** Committee on Veterans' Affairs. Hearings held.
- **Mar 10, 2021:** Introduced in Senate
- **Mar 10, 2021:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.