

S 927

TEAM Act

Congress: 117 (2021–2023, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Armed Forces and National Security

Introduced: Mar 23, 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/927>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Tillis, Thomas [R-NC]

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

Cosponsors (12 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Baldwin, Tammy [D-WI]	D · WI		Mar 23, 2021
Sen. Blackburn, Marsha [R-TN]	R · TN		Mar 23, 2021
Sen. Capito, Shelley Moore [R-WV]	R · WV		Mar 23, 2021
Sen. Hassan, Margaret Wood [D-NH]	D · NH		Mar 23, 2021
Sen. Klobuchar, Amy [D-MN]	D · MN		Mar 23, 2021
Sen. Moran, Jerry [R-KS]	R · KS		Mar 23, 2021
Sen. Collins, Susan M. [R-ME]	R · ME		Apr 21, 2021
Sen. Shaheen, Jeanne [D-NH]	D · NH		Apr 22, 2021
Sen. Durbin, Richard J. [D-IL]	D · IL		May 17, 2021
Sen. Cortez Masto, Catherine [D-NV]	D · NV		Jun 15, 2021
Sen. Crapo, Mike [R-ID]	R · ID		Jun 24, 2021
Sen. Van Hollen, Chris [D-MD]	D · MD		Jul 19, 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 2127	Identical bill	Jun 16, 2021: Referred to the Subcommittee on Disability Assistance and Memorial Affairs.

Toxic Exposure in the American Military Act or the TEAM Act

This bill requires the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) to expand health care, benefits, and resources for veterans with conditions related to exposure to toxic substances.

Specifically, the bill expands eligibility for VA hospital care, medical services, and nursing home care to include veterans who (1) were exposed to toxic substances, radiation, or other conditions, and were awarded certain medals (e.g., the Armed Forces Service Medal); (2) are eligible for inclusion in the Airborne Hazards and Open Burn Pit Registry; or (3) have been identified by the Department of Defense to have been possibly exposed during service to an open burn pit, toxic substance, or specified hazardous sites. (A burn pit is an area used for burning solid waste in open air without equipment.)

The bill establishes a presumption of service-connection for diseases associated with exposure to certain toxic substances and that become manifest within a certain time period; the VA must specify such diseases and requirements through regulations. 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.

The bill also requires the VA to take specified actions to (1) evaluate scientific evidence regarding associations between diseases and exposure to toxic substances; (2) train its health care personnel on identifying, treating, and assessing illnesses related to such exposure; and (3) provide resources to veterans exposed to toxic substances.

Actions Timeline

- **Apr 28, 2021:** Committee on Veterans' Affairs. Hearings held.
- **Mar 23, 2021:** Introduced in Senate
- **Mar 23, 2021:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.