

HR 2447

Panama Canal Zone Veterans Act of 2023

Congress: 118 (2023–2025, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Armed Forces and National Security

Introduced: Mar 30, 2023

Current Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on Disability Assistance and Memorial Affairs.

Latest Action: Referred to the Subcommittee on Disability Assistance and Memorial Affairs. (Apr 14, 2023)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/118th-congress/house-bill/2447>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Salazar, Maria Elvira [R-FL-27]

Party: Republican • **State:** FL • **Chamber:** House

Cosponsors (52 total)

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| Rep. Carson, Andre [D-IN-7] | D · IN | | Mar 30, 2023 |
| Rep. Castro, Joaquin [D-TX-20] | D · TX | | Mar 30, 2023 |
| Rep. Fitzpatrick, Brian K. [R-PA-1] | R · PA | | Mar 30, 2023 |
| Rep. Miller, Mary E. [R-IL-15] | R · IL | | Mar 30, 2023 |
| Rep. Soto, Darren [D-FL-9] | D · FL | | Mar 30, 2023 |
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| Del. Norton, Eleanor Holmes [D-DC-At Large] | D · DC | | Apr 13, 2023 |
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| Rep. Watson Coleman, Bonnie [D-NJ-12] | D · NJ | | Apr 17, 2023 |
| Rep. Gimenez, Carlos A. [R-FL-28] | R · FL | | Apr 18, 2023 |
| Rep. Kim, Andy [D-NJ-3] | D · NJ | | Apr 18, 2023 |
| Rep. Doggett, Lloyd [D-TX-37] | D · TX | | Apr 20, 2023 |
| Rep. Lawler, Michael [R-NY-17] | R · NY | | Apr 25, 2023 |
| Rep. Lee, Susie [D-NV-3] | D · NV | | Apr 25, 2023 |
| Rep. Sherrill, Mikie [D-NJ-11] | D · NJ | | Apr 25, 2023 |
| Rep. Gonzalez, Vicente [D-TX-34] | D · TX | | May 2, 2023 |
| Rep. Peltola, Mary Sattler [D-AK-At Large] | D · AK | | May 5, 2023 |
| Rep. Bilirakis, Gus M. [R-FL-12] | R · FL | | May 10, 2023 |
| Rep. Kean, Thomas H. [R-NJ-7] | R · NJ | | May 11, 2023 |
| Rep. Larsen, Rick [D-WA-2] | D · WA | | May 17, 2023 |
| Rep. Harder, Josh [D-CA-9] | D · CA | | May 23, 2023 |
| Rep. Raskin, Jamie [D-MD-8] | D · MD | | Jun 22, 2023 |
| Del. Moylan, James C. [R-GU-At Large] | R · GU | | Jul 27, 2023 |
| Rep. Cammack, Kat [R-FL-3] | R · FL | | Jul 27, 2023 |
| Rep. Tonko, Paul [D-NY-20] | D · NY | | Sep 20, 2023 |
| Rep. Trone, David J. [D-MD-6] | D · MD | | Sep 21, 2023 |
| Rep. Bowman, Jamaal [D-NY-16] | D · NY | | Sep 27, 2023 |
| Rep. Gottheimer, Josh [D-NJ-5] | D · NJ | | Oct 12, 2023 |
| Rep. Caraveo, Yadira [D-CO-8] | D · CO | | Nov 29, 2023 |
| Rep. Casten, Sean [D-IL-6] | D · IL | | Nov 29, 2023 |
| Rep. McGarvey, Morgan [D-KY-3] | D · KY | | Dec 6, 2023 |
| Rep. Allred, Colin Z. [D-TX-32] | D · TX | | Dec 13, 2023 |
| Rep. Courtney, Joe [D-CT-2] | D · CT | | Dec 13, 2023 |
| Rep. Neguse, Joe [D-CO-2] | D · CO | | Dec 14, 2023 |
| Rep. Smith, Christopher H. [R-NJ-4] | R · NJ | | Jan 12, 2024 |
| Rep. Green, Al [D-TX-9] | D · TX | | Jan 18, 2024 |
| Rep. Cuellar, Henry [D-TX-28] | D · TX | | Jan 25, 2024 |
| Rep. Norcross, Donald [D-NJ-1] | D · NJ | | Jan 29, 2024 |
| Rep. Salinas, Andrea [D-OR-6] | D · OR | | Jan 29, 2024 |
| Rep. Veasey, Marc A. [D-TX-33] | D · TX | | Jan 29, 2024 |

| Cosponsor | Party / State | Role | Date Joined |
|---|---------------|------|--------------|
| Rep. Davis, Donald G. [D-NC-1] | D · NC | | Feb 6, 2024 |
| Rep. Landsman, Greg [D-OH-1] | D · OH | | Feb 6, 2024 |
| Rep. Carbajal, Salud O. [D-CA-24] | D · CA | | Feb 13, 2024 |
| Rep. Casar, Greg [D-TX-35] | D · TX | | Feb 26, 2024 |
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| Rep. Jackson Lee, Sheila [D-TX-18] | D · TX | | Mar 6, 2024 |
| Rep. Malliotakis, Nicole [R-NY-11] | R · NY | | Mar 11, 2024 |
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| Rep. Nickel, Wiley [D-NC-13] | D · NC | | Jun 7, 2024 |
| Rep. Spanberger, Abigail Davis [D-VA-7] | D · VA | | Dec 18, 2024 |

Committee Activity

| Committee | Chamber | Activity | Date |
|-----------------------------|---------|-------------|--------------|
| Veterans' Affairs Committee | House | Referred to | Apr 14, 2023 |

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Armed Forces and National Security

Related Bills

No related bills are listed.

Summary (as of Mar 30, 2023)

Panama Canal Zone Veterans Act of 2023

This bill establishes a presumption of service-connection for specified conditions associated with active duty service in or near the Panama Canal Zone (zone) from January 1, 1958, through the latter of December 31, 1999, or the date on which the last service member departed from duty in the zone. 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 presumption of service-connection applies to illnesses listed in the bill (e.g., Hodgkin's disease) or those that (1) have a positive association with exposure to an herbicide agent that is known or presumed to be associated with service in the zone during the specified time period, and (2) become manifest in a veteran who served in the zone during the specified time period and was exposed to an herbicide agent during such service.

The Department of Veterans Affairs must prescribe regulations providing for a presumption of service-connection whenever there is a determination that a positive association exists between the exposure to an herbicide agent known or presumed to be associated with service in or near the zone and the occurrence of an illness in humans.

Actions Timeline

- **Apr 14, 2023:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Disability Assistance and Memorial Affairs.
- **Mar 30, 2023:** Introduced in House
- **Mar 30, 2023:** Referred to the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

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