

S 3853

Radiation Exposure Compensation Reauthorization Act

Congress: 118 (2023–2025, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Labor and Employment

Introduced: Feb 29, 2024

Current Status: Held at the desk.

Latest Action: Held at the desk. (Mar 11, 2024)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/118th-congress/senate-bill/3853>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Hawley, Josh [R-MO]

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

Cosponsors (6 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Crapo, Mike [R-ID]	R · ID		Mar 5, 2024
Sen. Heinrich, Martin [D-NM]	D · NM		Mar 5, 2024
Sen. Kelly, Mark [D-AZ]	D · AZ		Mar 5, 2024
Sen. Lujan, Ben Ray [D-NM]	D · NM		Mar 5, 2024
Sen. Schmitt, Eric [R-MO]	R · MO		Mar 5, 2024
Sen. Sinema, Kyrsten [I-AZ]	I · AZ		Mar 6, 2024

Committee Activity

No committee referrals or activity are recorded for this bill.

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Labor and Employment

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
118 HR 2670	Related bill	Dec 22, 2023: Became Public Law No: 118-31.
118 S 2226	Related bill	Jul 27, 2023: Senate ordered measure printed as passed.
118 HR 4426	Related bill	Jul 7, 2023: Referred to the Subcommittee on Environment, Manufacturing, and Critical Materials.
118 S 1751	Related bill	May 18, 2023: Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Radiation Exposure Compensation Reauthorization Act

This bill reauthorizes and expands programs that compensate individuals who were exposed to radiation during certain nuclear testing or uranium mining and who subsequently developed medical conditions, including cancers.

Under current law, compensation is payable to individuals based on requirements including the (1) dates when exposure occurred, (2) duration of exposure, (3) type of exposure, and (4) resulting medical condition.

Among other changes to this program, the bill (1) extends the eligible dates when qualifying atmospheric exposure occurred, (2) authorizes compensation to individuals with combined work histories in uranium mining, (3) adds core drilling as an eligible mining occupation, and (4) increases the amount of compensation awarded to qualifying individuals.

The bill also expands this program to compensate individuals located in specified areas in Alaska, Kentucky, Missouri, and Tennessee associated with waste from the Manhattan Project and who subsequently developed specified types of cancer.

The bill extends until five years after this bill's enactment the statute of limitations for the filing of claims.

The bill also expands eligibility under an existing occupational illness compensation program for former Department of Energy employees.

The bill also establishes a grant program for institutions of higher education to study the epidemiological impacts of uranium mining and milling among individuals without occupational exposure.

The bill directs the Government Accountability Office to study and report to Congress on the unmet medical benefits coverage for individuals who were exposed to radiation in atmospheric nuclear tests conducted by the federal government.

Actions Timeline

- **Mar 11, 2024:** Received in the House.
- **Mar 11, 2024:** Held at the desk.
- **Mar 8, 2024:** Message on Senate action sent to the House.
- **Mar 7, 2024:** Measure laid before Senate by unanimous consent.
- **Mar 7, 2024:** Passed/agreed to in Senate: Passed Senate under the order of 2/29/2024, having achieved 60 votes in the affirmative, without amendment by Yea-Nay Vote. 69 - 30. Record Vote Number: 75.
- **Mar 7, 2024:** Passed Senate under the order of 2/29/2024, having achieved 60 votes in the affirmative, without amendment by Yea-Nay Vote. 69 - 30. Record Vote Number: 75.
- **Mar 5, 2024:** Read the second time. Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 336.
- **Feb 29, 2024:** Introduced in Senate
- **Feb 29, 2024:** Introduced in the Senate. Read the first time. Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under Read the First Time.