

HR 3888

To amend title 38, United States Code, to strengthen benefits for children of Vietnam veterans born with spina bifida, and for other purposes.

Congress: 118 (2023–2025, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Armed Forces and National Security

Introduced: Jun 7, 2023

Current Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on Health.

Latest Action: Referred to the Subcommittee on Health. (Jul 10, 2023)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/118th-congress/house-bill/3888>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Baird, James R. [R-IN-4]

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

Cosponsors (3 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Smith, Christopher H. [R-NJ-4]	R · NJ		Jul 27, 2023
Rep. Nickel, Wiley [D-NC-13]	D · NC		Sep 18, 2023
Rep. Van Drew, Jefferson [R-NJ-2]	R · NJ		Sep 18, 2023

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Veterans' Affairs Committee	House	Referred to	Jul 10, 2023

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Armed Forces and National Security

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
118 S 112	Identical bill	Oct 6, 2023: Became Public Law No: 118-18.

This bill addresses Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) benefits and care for certain children with spina bifida or other birth defects. The bill requires the VA to provide health care, job training, and monetary benefits for the duration of the child's life. The bill covers a child, regardless of age or marital status, who: (1) has spina bifida and is the natural child of a Vietnam veteran or a veteran of specified service in Korea or Thailand who was conceived after the date on which the veteran entered service in Vietnam, Korea, or Thailand; or (2) has certain birth defects and is the natural child of a woman Vietnam veteran.

The bill requires the VA to establish an advisory council on health care and benefits for covered children. Additionally, the VA must establish care and coordination teams for covered children. At least every 180 days, the teams must conduct outreach to ensure the continued care of the children and assist with any necessary changes in care.

The VA must report to Congress a list of conditions that will trigger outreach to covered children, and must attempt to contact such children as soon as practicable after the identification of a condition.

The Veterans Benefits Administration and the Veterans Health Administration must enter into a memorandum of understanding to better assist covered children.

Actions Timeline

- **Jul 10, 2023:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Health.
- **Jun 7, 2023:** Introduced in House
- **Jun 7, 2023:** Referred to the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs.