

109<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESS  
1<sup>ST</sup> SESSION

# H. R. 2370

To direct the Secretary of Defense to issue a medal to certain veterans who died after their service in the Vietnam War as a direct result of that service, or who were presumptively exposed to ionizing radiation, herbicide agents, or chemical agents during their service in the Armed Forces.

---

## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 16, 2005

Mr. FILNER introduced the following bill; which was referred to the  
Committee on Armed Services

---

## A BILL

To direct the Secretary of Defense to issue a medal to certain veterans who died after their service in the Vietnam War as a direct result of that service, or who were presumptively exposed to ionizing radiation, herbicide agents, or chemical agents during their service in the Armed Forces.

1        *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2        *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3        **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4        This Act may be cited as the “In Memory Medal For  
5        Forgotten Veterans Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. MEDAL TO HONOR VETERANS WHO DIED AS A RE-**  
2 **SULT OF THEIR SERVICE IN THE VIETNAM**  
3 **WAR OR WHO WERE PRESUMPTIVELY EX-**  
4 **POSED TO IONIZING RADIATION, HERBICIDE**  
5 **AGENTS, OR CHEMICAL AGENTS.**

6 (a) **MEDAL AUTHORIZED.**—There is established a  
7 medal, to be known as the “Jesus (Chuchi) Salgado  
8 Medal”, to be issued by the Secretary of Defense to any  
9 of the following:

10 (1) **VETERANS WHO DIED AS A RESULT OF**  
11 **THEIR SERVICE IN THE VIETNAM WAR.**—A veteran  
12 of the Vietnam War who died after serving in the  
13 war, but whose death is determined by the Secretary  
14 of Defense to be a direct result of that service, and  
15 whose name is not eligible for placement on the Viet-  
16 nam Veterans Memorial authorized under Public  
17 Law 96–297 (16 U.S.C. 431 note).

18 (2) **VETERANS EXPOSED TO IONIZING RADI-**  
19 **ATION.**—A radiation-exposed veteran who is eligible  
20 (or was at the time of death eligible) to receive bene-  
21 fits from the Secretary of Veterans Affairs under  
22 section 1710(e)(1)(B) of title 38, United States  
23 Code, attributable to the presumption of service-con-  
24 nection under section 1112(c)(1) of that title.

25 (3) **VETERANS EXPOSED TO HERBICIDE**  
26 **AGENTS.**—A veteran of service in the Republic of

1 Vietnam who is eligible (or was at the time of death  
2 eligible) to receive benefits from the Secretary of  
3 Veterans Affairs under section 1710(e)(1)(A) of title  
4 38, United States Code, attributable to the presump-  
5 tion of service-connection under section 1116(f) of  
6 that title.

7 (4) VETERANS EXPOSED TO CERTAIN CHEM-  
8 ICAL AGENTS.—A veteran who served on active duty  
9 in the Southwest Asia theater of operations during  
10 the Persian Gulf War who is entitled (or was at the  
11 time of death entitled) to receive compensation from  
12 the United States under section 1110 of title 38, at-  
13 tributable to the presumption of service-connection  
14 under section 1118(a) of that title.

15 (b) APPLICATION AND DESIGN.—The Jesus (Chuchi)  
16 Salgado Medal shall be issued upon receipt by the Sec-  
17 retary of Defense of an application for such medal, sub-  
18 mitted in accordance with such regulations as the Sec-  
19 retary prescribes. The medal shall be of an appropriate  
20 design approved by the Secretary.

21 (c) ISSUANCE TO REPRESENTATIVE OF DE-  
22 CEASED.—If a person described in subsection (a) dies be-  
23 fore being issued the Jesus (Chuchi) Salgado Medal, the  
24 medal shall be issued to the next-of-kin or representative  
25 of such person, as designated by the Secretary of Defense.

1           (d) ASSISTANCE FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF VET-  
2 ERANS AFFAIRS.—The Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall  
3 make available to the Secretary of Defense such records,  
4 and otherwise provide such assistance, as the Secretary  
5 of Defense may require for purposes of this section.

6           (e) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

7               (1) RADIATION-EXPOSED VETERAN.—The term  
8 “radiation-exposed veteran” has the meaning given  
9 to that term in section 1112(c)(3)(A) of title 38,  
10 United States Code.

11               (2) VETERAN OF SERVICE IN THE REPUBLIC OF  
12 VIETNAM.—The term “veteran of service in the Re-  
13 public of Vietnam” means a veteran who served on  
14 active duty in the Republic of Vietnam during the  
15 period beginning on February 28, 1961, and ending  
16 on May 7, 1975.

○