

109<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESS  
2<sup>D</sup> SESSION

# H. R. 6251

To provide for health care benefits for certain nuclear facility workers.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 28, 2006

Mr. STRICKLAND (for himself, Mr. UDALL of Colorado, Ms. DEGETTE, and Mr. BROWN of Ohio) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce

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## A BILL

To provide for health care benefits for certain nuclear facility workers.

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. PROGRAM AUTHORIZED.**

4       (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Energy, after  
5       consultation with collective bargaining representatives of  
6       eligible workers described in subsection (b), shall establish  
7       a program to provide health care benefits for such work-  
8       ers.

1 (b) ELIGIBLE WORKERS.—An individual shall be eli-  
2 gible for benefits under the program established under  
3 subsection (a) only if the individual—

4 (1) has been employed by a Department of En-  
5 ergy prime contractor, or a subcontractor thereof, to  
6 perform duties, under a contract between such prime  
7 contractor and the Department of Energy for envi-  
8 ronmental remediation, waste management, decon-  
9 tamination and decommissioning, maintenance, secu-  
10 rity, and administrative activities, at the Fernald  
11 Closure Project (Harrison, Ohio), the Mound Clo-  
12 sure Project (Miamisburg, Ohio), or the Rocky Flats  
13 Environmental Technology Site (Golden, Colorado);  
14 and

15 (2) would have qualified for health care benefits  
16 available for retirees under the health and welfare  
17 benefit plans sponsored by the prime contractors or  
18 subcontractors described in paragraph (1) had the  
19 individual's employment not been terminated as a  
20 result of the accelerated closure of the site at which  
21 the individual was employed.

22 (c) DEFINITION.—For purposes of this section, the  
23 term “accelerated closure” means closure of a site on an  
24 accelerated schedule compared to the Department of Ener-

1 gy's plans for closure of such site set forth in its plans  
2 that were in place on January 1, 2000.

3 (d) LEVEL OF BENEFITS.—To the extent provided  
4 in advance in appropriations Acts or otherwise available,  
5 medical benefits shall be provided under the program es-  
6 tablished under subsection (a) at the same level as benefits  
7 are provided under the health and welfare benefit plans  
8 sponsored by the prime contractors described in subsection  
9 (b)(1) to employees who retired on January 1, 2005.

10 (e) IMPLEMENTATION.—Not later than 30 days after  
11 the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Energy  
12 shall take all necessary actions to implement the program  
13 under this section through its contractors, subcontractors,  
14 or the benefit plan administrators at the sites described  
15 in subsection (b)(1).

16 (f) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There  
17 are authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary of En-  
18 ergy such sums as may be necessary to carry out this sec-  
19 tion.

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