

110TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 2848

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

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

APRIL 10, 2008

Mr. BROWN introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

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. HEALTH CARE BENEFITS FOR CERTAIN NU-**
4 **CLEAR FACILITY WORKERS.**

5 (a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

6 (1) ACCELERATED CLOSURE.—The term “accel-
7 erated closure” means closure of a site on an accel-
8 erated schedule, as compared with the schedule of
9 the Department for closure of the site specified in
10 plans of the Department that were in effect on Jan-
11 uary 1, 2000.

1 (2) DEPARTMENT.—The term “Department”
2 means the Department of Energy.

3 (3) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means
4 the Secretary of Energy.

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

9 (c) ELIGIBLE WORKERS.—An individual shall be eli-
10 gible for benefits under the program established under
11 subsection (b) only if the individual—

12 (1) has been employed by a prime contractor of
13 the Department (including a subcontractor of the
14 contractor) to perform duties, under a contract be-
15 tween the prime contractor and the Department for
16 environmental remediation, waste management, de-
17 contamination and decommissioning, maintenance,
18 security, and administrative activities, at the
19 Fernald Closure Project (Harrison, Ohio), the
20 Mound Closure Project (Miamisburg, Ohio), or the
21 Rocky Flats Environmental Technology Site (Gold-
22 en, Colorado); and

23 (2) would have qualified for health care benefits
24 available for retirees under the health and welfare
25 benefit plans sponsored by a prime contractor or

1 subcontractor described in paragraph (1) if the em-
2 ployment of the individual had not been terminated
3 as a result of the accelerated closure of the site at
4 which the individual was employed.

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

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

18 (f) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
19 are authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary such
20 sums as are necessary to carry out this section.

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