

bill to amend title IX of the Social Security Act to improve emergency unemployment relief for governmental entities and nonprofit organizations.

S. 4012

At the request of Mr. WICKER, the name of the Senator from Colorado (Mr. GARDNER) was added as a sponsor of S. 4012, a bill to establish a \$120,000,000,000 Restaurant Revitalization Fund to provide structured relief to food service or drinking establishments through December 31, 2020, and for other purposes.

S. 4019

At the request of Mr. CORNYN, the name of the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. SASSE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4019, a bill to amend title 5, United States Code, to designate Juneteenth National Independence Day as a legal public holiday.

S. 4021

At the request of Mr. WICKER, the names of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MORAN) and the Senator from Missouri (Mr. BLUNT) were added as cosponsors of S. 4021, a bill to accelerate rural broadband deployment.

S. RES. 613

At the request of Mr. COTTON, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mrs. LOEFFLER) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 613, a resolution calling for justice for George Floyd and opposing calls to defund the police.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mrs. FEINSTEIN (for herself, Mr. CORNYN, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. MARKEY, and Ms. ROSEN):

S. 4043. A bill to require the Secretary of Defense to develop a comprehensive database and repository on military aviators and conduct a study on such aviators to determine the incidence of cancer diagnosis and mortality among such aviators, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services.

Mrs. FEINSTEIN. Mr. President, I rise to speak in support of the "Military Aviators Cancer Incidence Study Act," which I introduced today.

This legislation would require the Department of Defense to conduct a study to determine if there is a higher incidence of cancers occurring in military aviators as compared to similar age groups in the general population.

It has been reported that the prevalence of cancer is particularly high among military aviators, particularly among fighter pilots in the United States Air Force, Navy, and Marine Corps.

There have been several alarming clusters of cancer diagnoses at military installations, including at Naval Air Weapons Station China Lake in California and Seymour Johnson Air Force Base in North Carolina.

Four commanding officers who served at Naval Air Weapons Station

China Lake have died of cancer. Each officer had completed thousands of flight hours in advanced jets.

According to a study by the U.S. Air Force in 2008 titled "Cancer in Fighters," six pilots and weapons systems officers for the F-15E Strike Eagle at Seymour Johnson Air Force Base, aged 33 to 43, were diagnosed with cancer between 2002 and 2005. Each officer had completed at least 2,100 flight hours.

A study by the U.S. Air Force in 2010 reported on a cluster of seven members of the Air Force Special Operations Command diagnosed with brain cancer among crew members of the C-130 between 2006 and 2009. The individuals affected were three C-130 pilots, two flight engineers, one loadmaster, and one navigator assigned to different installations around the world.

And yet, there has been no comprehensive study conducted of cancer rates among military aviators.

One challenge of extracting findings from previous studies by the Navy or the Air Force on cancer rates is that each study focused on pilots who are active duty members of the Armed Forces and did not include the medical records of former pilots who are veterans, which is the population in which cancer most often appears.

Members of the Armed Forces who serve full military careers are not likely to be counted in data captured by the Department of Veterans Affairs. Members who served 20 years or more are eligible for health care under the TRICARE program, which is managed by the Department of Defense.

Also, many members pursue private sector jobs after separating from the Armed Forces and receive health care outside of the Federal Government. Those factors have made it difficult to see if the health issues that families of military aviators are experiencing are part of larger trend.

HOW THE BILL WOULD HELP

Our bill would require the Department of Defense in conjunction with the National Institutes of Health, the National Cancer Institute, and the Department of Veterans Affairs to conduct a study across the United States Air Force, Navy, and Marine Corps to determine whether there is a higher incidence of cancers occurring among military aviators as compared to similar age groups in the general population.

If the study determines a higher rate of cancer among military aviators, the Department of Defense would then move into a second phase of the study and report to Congress on the following:

Carcinogens associated with military flight operations;

The operating environments where aviators might have been exposed to increased radiation;

Duty stations, dates of service, aircraft flown, and additional duties that could have increased the risk of cancer for each affected military aviator;

Locations where a military aviator served or additional duties of a mili-

tary aviator associated with higher incidences of cancer;

Potential exposures due to service in the Armed Forces that are not related to aviation, such as exposure to burn pits or toxins in contaminated water; and

The appropriate age to begin screening military aviators for cancer based on several variables.

CONCLUSION

Military aviators take enough risks while serving our country without also having to worry about contracting cancer from radiation exposure.

The high prevalence of cancer among these pilots is deeply concerning, particularly the clusters of cases at China Lake.

We must determine why these aviators are getting cancer and if their jobs are exposing them to dangerous carcinogens.

The study is an important step to help us understand what is happening and how we can better protect our military men and women. I hope my colleagues will join me in support of this bill.

Thank you Mr. President. I yield the floor.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 636—RECOGNIZING THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE COMMENCEMENT OF CONTINUOUS OPERATIONS OF THE STARS AND STRIPES NEWSPAPER IN THE PACIFIC AND THE INVALUABLE SERVICE OF THE STARS AND STRIPES AS THE "HOMETOWN NEWSPAPER" FOR MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES, CIVILIAN EMPLOYEES, AND FAMILY MEMBERS STATIONED ACROSS THE GLOBE

Mr. GRAHAM submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 636

Whereas May 14, 2020, marks the 75th anniversary of the commencement of continuous operations, in service to the military community of the United States, of Stars and Stripes in the Pacific, a military newspaper established in Honolulu to provide an independent, uncensored news source for members of the Armed Forces fighting in World War II;

Whereas Stars and Stripes was heralded for indispensable service when it was initially established during the Civil War and again during World War I, when General John J. Pershing reestablished Stars and Stripes to provide news and information as an important morale-building force for soldiers serving in the American Expeditionary Force;

Whereas, after its permanent formation in World War II, Stars and Stripes started printing in Tokyo, Japan, on October 3, 1945, working in requisitioned space formally occupied by the Japan Times, and excelled in its mission across every theater of war, leading President Harry S. Truman to say later, "In Africa, Europe and the Pacific, The Stars and Stripes has established itself as a cherished and important soldier's institution.";