

117TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 4571

To amend title 38, United States Code, to direct the Under Secretary for Health of the Department of Veterans Affairs to provide mammography screening for veterans who served in locations associated with toxic exposure.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 20, 2021

Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS (for herself and Ms. BROWNLEY) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs

A BILL

To amend title 38, United States Code, to direct the Under Secretary for Health of the Department of Veterans Affairs to provide mammography screening for veterans who served in locations associated with toxic exposure.

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 “Supporting Expanded
5 Review for Veterans In Combat Environments Act of
6 2021” or the “SERVICE Act of 2021”.

1 **SEC. 2. REVISION OF BREAST CANCER MAMMOGRAPHY**
2 **POLICY OF DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AF-**
3 **FAIRS TO PROVIDE MAMMOGRAPHY SCREEN-**
4 **ING FOR VETERANS WHO SERVED IN LOCA-**
5 **TIONS ASSOCIATED WITH TOXIC EXPOSURE.**

6 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 7322 of title 38, United
7 States Code, is amended—

8 (1) in subsection (a), by striking “The” and in-
9 serting “IN GENERAL.—The”;

10 (2) in subsection (b)—

11 (A) by striking “The” and inserting
12 “STANDARDS FOR SCREENING.—The”; and

13 (B) in paragraph (2)(B), by inserting “a
14 record of service in a location and during a pe-
15 riod specified in subsection (d),” after “risk
16 factors,”; and

17 (3) by adding at the end the following new sub-
18 sections:

19 “(c) ELIGIBILITY FOR SCREENING FOR VETERANS
20 EXPOSED TO TOXIC SUBSTANCES.—The Under Secretary
21 for Health shall ensure that, under the policy developed
22 under subsection (a), any veteran who, during active mili-
23 tary, naval, or air service, was deployed in support of a
24 contingency operation in a location and during a period
25 specified in subsection (d), is eligible for a mammography
26 screening by a health care provider of the Department.

1 “(d) LOCATIONS AND PERIODS SPECIFIED.—(1) The
2 locations and periods specified in this subsection are the
3 following:

4 “(A) Iraq during following periods:

5 “(i) The period beginning on August 2,
6 1990, and ending on February 28, 1991.

7 “(ii) The period beginning on March 19,
8 2003, and ending on such date as the Secretary
9 determines burn pits are no longer used in Iraq.

10 “(B) The Southwest Asia theater of operations,
11 other than Iraq, during the period beginning on Au-
12 gust 2, 1990, and ending on such date as the Sec-
13 retary determines burn pits are no longer used in
14 such location, including the following locations:

15 “(i) Kuwait.

16 “(ii) Saudi Arabia.

17 “(iii) Oman.

18 “(iv) Qatar.

19 “(C) Afghanistan during the period beginning
20 on September 11, 2001, and ending on such date as
21 the Secretary determines burn pits are no longer
22 used in Afghanistan.

23 “(D) Djibouti during the period beginning on
24 September 11, 2001, and ending on such date as the

1 Secretary determines burn pits are no longer used in
2 Djibouti.

3 “(E) Syria during the period beginning on Sep-
4 tember 11, 2001, and ending on such date as the
5 Secretary determines burn pits are no longer used in
6 Syria.

7 “(F) Jordan during the period beginning on
8 September 11, 2001, and ending on such date as the
9 Secretary determines burn pits are no longer used in
10 Jordan.

11 “(G) Egypt during the period beginning on
12 September 11, 2001, and ending on such date as the
13 Secretary determines burn pits are no longer used in
14 Egypt.

15 “(H) Lebanon during the period beginning on
16 September 11, 2001, and ending on such date as the
17 Secretary determines burn pits are no longer used in
18 Lebanon.

19 “(I) Yemen during the period beginning on
20 September 11, 2001, and ending on such date as the
21 Secretary determines burn pits are no longer used in
22 Yemen.

23 “(J) Such other locations and corresponding pe-
24 riods as set forth by the Airborne Hazards and Open
25 Burn Pit Registry established under section 201 of

1 the Dignified Burial and Other Veterans' Benefits
2 Improvement Act of 2012 (Public Law 112–260; 38
3 U.S.C. 527 note).

4 “(K) Such other locations and corresponding
5 periods as the Secretary, in collaboration with the
6 Secretary of Defense, may determine appropriate in
7 a report submitted under paragraph (2).

8 “(2) Not later than two years after the date of the
9 enactment of the Supporting Expanded Review for Vet-
10 erans In Combat Environments Act of 2021, and not less
11 frequently than once every two years thereafter, the Sec-
12 retary of Veterans Affairs, in collaboration with the Sec-
13 retary of Defense, shall submit to Congress a report speci-
14 fying other locations and corresponding periods for pur-
15 poses of paragraph (1)(K).

16 “(3) A location under this subsection shall not in-
17 clude any body of water around or any airspace above such
18 location.

19 “(4) In this subsection, the term ‘burn pit’ means an
20 area of land that is used for disposal of solid waste by
21 burning in the outdoor air.”.

22 (b) REPORT ON BREAST CANCER RATES FOR VET-
23 ERANS DEPLOYED TO CERTAIN AREAS.—Not later than
24 two years after the date of the enactment of this Act, the
25 Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall submit to the Com-

1 mittee on Veterans' Affairs of the Senate and the Com-
2 mittee on Veterans' Affairs of the House of Representa-
3 tives a report that compares the rates of breast cancer
4 among members of the Armed Forces deployed to the loca-
5 tions and during the periods specified in section 7322(d)
6 of title 38, United States Code, as added by subsection
7 (a), as compared to members of the Armed Forces who
8 were not deployed to those locations during those periods
9 and to the civilian population.

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