

119TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# S. 201

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## AN ACT

To provide for a study by the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine on the prevalence and mortality of cancer among individuals who served as active duty aircrew in the Armed Forces, and for other purposes.

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

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2       This Act may be cited as the “ACES Act of 2025”.

3 **SEC. 2. NATIONAL ACADEMIES STUDY ON PREVALENCE**  
 4                   **AND MORTALITY OF CANCER AMONG INDIVIDUALS WHO SERVED AS ACTIVE DUTY AIR-**  
 5                   **CREW IN THE ARMED FORCES.**

7       (a) AGREEMENT.—

8           (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 30 days after  
 9       the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary  
 10      of Veterans Affairs shall seek to enter into an agree-  
 11      ment with the National Academies of Sciences, En-  
 12      gineering, and Medicine (in this section referred to  
 13      as the “National Academies”), under which the Na-  
 14      tional Academies shall conduct a study on the preva-  
 15      lence and mortality of cancers among covered indi-  
 16      viduals.

17       (2) DEADLINE.—

18           (A) DATE.—The Secretary shall finalize  
 19      the agreement under paragraph (1) by not later  
 20      than 60 days after the date on which the Sec-  
 21      retary enters negotiations with the National  
 22      Academies with respect to such agreement.

23           (B) REPORT; BRIEFINGS.—If the Secretary  
 24      fails to satisfy the requirement under subpara-  
 25      graph (A), the Secretary shall—

(i) submit to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs of the Senate and the Committee on Veterans' Affairs of the House of Representatives a report that includes—

(I) an explanation of the reasons the Secretary failed to satisfy such requirement; and

(II) an estimate of the date on which the Secretary will finalize the agreement under paragraph (1); and

(ii) not less frequently than once every 60 days after the date on which the Secretary failed to satisfy such requirement, provide to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs of the Senate and the Committee on Veterans' Affairs of the House of Representatives a briefing on the progress of the Secretary toward finalizing such agreement.

(b) STUDY.—The study required under subsection (a) shall—

(1) identify exposures associated with military occupations of covered individuals, including relating to chemicals, compounds, agents, and other phenomena;

(2) review the literature to determine associations between exposures referred to in paragraph (1) and the incidence or prevalence of overall cancer morbidity, overall cancer mortality, and increased incidence or prevalence of—

(A) brain cancer;

(B) colon and rectal cancers;

(C) kidney cancer;

(D) lung cancer;

(E) melanoma skin cancer;

(F) non-Hodgkin lymphoma;

(G) pancreatic cancer;

(H) prostate cancer;

(I) testicular cancer;

(J) thyroid cancer;

(K) urinary bladder cancer; and

(L) other cancers as determined appropriate by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, in consultation with the National Academies; and

(3) determine, to the extent possible, the prevalence of and mortality from the cancers specified in paragraph (2) among covered individuals by using available sources of data, which may include—

(A) health care and other administrative databases of the Department of Veterans Af-

1           fairs, the Department of Defense, and the indi-  
2           vidual Services, respectively;

3           (B) the national death index maintained by  
4           the National Center for Health Statistics of the  
5           Centers for Disease Control and Prevention;  
6           and

7           (C) the study conducted under section 750  
8           of the William M. (Mac) Thornberry National  
9           Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2021  
10          (Public Law 116–283; 134 Stat. 3716).

11       (c) REPORT.—At the conclusion of the study required  
12       under subsection (a), the National Academies shall submit  
13       to the Secretary, the Committee on Veterans’ Affairs of  
14       the Senate, and the Committee on Veterans’ Affairs of the  
15       House of Representatives a report containing the results  
16       of the study described in subsection (b).

17       (d) COVERED INDIVIDUAL DEFINED.—In this sec-  
18       tion, the term “covered individual” means an individual  
19       who served on active duty in the Army, Navy, Air Force,  
20       or Marine Corps as an aircrew member of a fixed-wing  
21       aircraft, including as a pilot, navigator, weapons systems

- 1 operator, aircraft system operator, or any other crew
- 2 member who regularly flew in a fixed-wing aircraft.

Passed the Senate June 3, 2025.

Attest:

*Secretary.*



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