

118TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 3958

To require the Interagency Working Group on Toxic Exposure to conduct research on the diagnosis and treatment of health conditions of descendants of individuals exposed to toxic substances while serving as members of the Armed Forces, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MARCH 14, 2024

Mr. TESTER (for himself and Mr. RUBIO) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs

A BILL

To require the Interagency Working Group on Toxic Exposure to conduct research on the diagnosis and treatment of health conditions of descendants of individuals exposed to toxic substances while serving as members of 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,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Molly R. Loomis Re-
5 search for Descendants of Toxic Exposed Veterans Act of
6 2024”.

1 **SEC. 2. RESEARCH ON DIAGNOSIS AND TREATMENT OF**
2 **HEALTH CONDITIONS OF DESCENDANTS OF**
3 **INDIVIDUALS EXPOSED TO TOXIC SUB-**
4 **STANCES WHILE SERVING IN ARMED FORCES.**

5 (a) IN GENERAL.—Subsection (b) of section 501 of
6 the Sergeant First Class Heath Robinson Honoring our
7 Promise to Address Comprehensive Toxics Act of 2022
8 (Public Law 117–168) is amended by adding at the end
9 the following new paragraph:

10 “(3) Establish Federal interagency task forces
11 to conduct collaborative research activities.”.

12 (b) REPORTING.—Subsection (c) of such section is
13 amended by striking paragraphs (2) and (3) and inserting
14 the following:

15 “(2) Not later than two years after the date of
16 the enactment of this Act—

17 “(A) a report containing a description of
18 the collaborative research activities identified by
19 the Working Group under subsection (b);

20 “(B) the findings of the members of the
21 Working Group with respect to the collaborative
22 research activities described in subparagraph
23 (A);

24 “(C) the strategic plan developed, by the
25 Working Group under subsection (b); and

1 “(D) such recommendations as the Work-
2 ing Group may have for legislative or adminis-
3 trative action to improve collaborative research
4 activities among the members of the Working
5 Group.

6 “(3) Not less frequently than annually during
7 the five-year period covered by the strategic plan de-
8 veloped under subsection (b)—

9 “(A) a summary of the collaborative re-
10 search activities carried out by the members of
11 the Working Group and the findings of the
12 members with respect to such research activi-
13 ties;

14 “(B) a progress report on implementation
15 of the strategic plan developed by the Working
16 Group under subsection (b); and

17 “(C) such recommendations as the Work-
18 ing Group may have for legislative or adminis-
19 trative action to improve collaborative research
20 activities among members of the Working
21 Group.”.

22 (c) RESEARCH REQUIREMENTS.—Such section is
23 amended—

24 (1) by redesignating subsections (c) through (e)
25 as subsections (d) through (f), respectively;

1 (2) in subsection (e), as redesignated by para-
2 graph (1), by striking “under subsection (e)” and
3 inserting “under subsection (d)”; and

4 (3) by inserting after subsection (b) the fol-
5 lowing new subsection (c):

6 “(c) REQUIREMENTS RELATING TO CERTAIN RE-
7 SEARCH ON IMPACTS TO DESCENDANTS.—The Working
8 Group and the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease
9 Registry shall—

10 “(1) establish an interagency task force to con-
11 duct research on the diagnosis and treatment of
12 health conditions of descendants of toxic-exposed
13 veteran (as defined in section 101 of title 38, United
14 States Code); and

15 “(2) maintain a publicly available website with
16 information on the activities and findings of the
17 Agency under subparagraph (A), including a review
18 of all relevant data to determine the strength of evi-
19 dence for a positive association between a health
20 condition researched and a toxic exposure risk activ-
21 ity (as defined in section 1710(e)(4) of title 38,
22 United States Code) based on the categories set
23 forth under section 1173(c)(2) of title 38, United
24 States Code.”.

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