

119TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 10485

To direct the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Health Affairs to have a review conducted of the occupational health and safety conditions of facilities associated with the Minuteman III intercontinental ballistic missile system.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 17, 2026

Mr. BACON introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Armed Services

A BILL

To direct the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Health Affairs to have a review conducted of the occupational health and safety conditions of facilities associated with the Minuteman III intercontinental ballistic missile system.

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 “Minuteman III Health
5 and Safety Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. REVIEW OF THE OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND**
2 **SAFETY CONDITIONS OF OPERATIONAL FA-**
3 **CILITIES ASSOCIATED WITH THE LGM-30G**
4 **MINUTEMAN III INTERCONTINENTAL BAL-**
5 **LISTIC MISSILE SYSTEM.**

6 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Assistant Secretary of De-
7 fense for Health Affairs, in consultation with the Assistant
8 Secretary of Defense for Nuclear Deterrence, Chemical,
9 and Biological Defense Policy and Programs, shall seek
10 to enter into an agreement with the Executive Officer of
11 the National Academy of Sciences, Engineering, and Med-
12 icine for a review of the occupational health and safety
13 conditions of covered operational facilities.

14 (b) ELEMENTS.—The review required by subsection
15 (a) shall include the following:

16 (1) An independent review of the methodology
17 and findings of the Missile Community Cancer
18 Study conducted by the Air Force Medical Service
19 and Air Force Global Strike Command.

20 (2) An independent assessment of occupational
21 hazards, covered toxic substances, and operational
22 activities associated with the LGM-30G Minuteman
23 III intercontinental ballistic missile system that ac-
24 counts for—

25 (A) enclosed space dynamics;

26 (B) ventilation inefficiencies; and

1 (C) limited fresh air exchange rates.

2 (3) An independent case-controlled retrospective
3 study of cancer incidence rates among—

4 (A) Minuteman III missile launch officers
5 and support personnel; compared to

6 (B) a group of members of the Air Force
7 with—

8 (i) a substantially similar demo-
9 graphic makeup to the group of launch of-
10 ficers and support personnel included in
11 the study;

12 (ii) responsibilities that are not associ-
13 ated with the Minuteman III system; and

14 (iii) a low potential for occupational
15 exposure to covered toxic substances, as
16 determined by Air Force Specialty Code
17 and occupational duties.

18 (4) A comparative evaluation of the suitability
19 and effectiveness of historic versus current year en-
20 vironmental surveillance policies, procedures, and
21 technologies of the Department of the Air Force for
22 covered operational facilities used to detect exposure
23 to covered toxic substances and occupational haz-
24 ards, including—

25 (A) air quality;

1 (B) groundwater and drinking water con-
2 tamination;

3 (C) ventilation systems and particulate
4 matter accumulation; and

5 (D) residual contamination associated with
6 confined operational environments.

7 (5) An evaluation of the suitability and effec-
8 tiveness of policies, procedures, and technologies of
9 the Department of the Air Force to prevent occupa-
10 tional hazards, and reduce exposure to covered toxic
11 substances, associated with the Minuteman III sys-
12 tem including—

13 (A) personal protective equipment;

14 (B) engineering controls;

15 (C) environmental surveillance; and

16 (D) other policies, procedures, and tech-
17 nologies deemed relevant.

18 (6) An evaluation of the suitability and effec-
19 tiveness of policies, procedures, and technologies of
20 the Department of the Air Force and the Depart-
21 ment of Defense for reporting and periodic medical
22 screening, testing, and evaluations for potential ex-
23 posure to occupational hazards and covered toxic
24 substances for personnel associated with the Minute-
25 man III system.

1 (7) Recommendations of the Executive Officer
2 with respect to—

3 (A) Department of Defense actions to en-
4 sure that occupational health and safety condi-
5 tions of covered operational facilities—

6 (i) meet current occupational safety
7 and national security requirements in ef-
8 fect as of the date of the enactment of this
9 Act; and

10 (ii) are applied to the LGM-35A Sen-
11 tinel intercontinental ballistic missile sys-
12 tem; and

13 (B) potential modifications to—

14 (i) the current design and operation of
15 the LGM-30G Minuteman III interconti-
16 nental ballistic missile system; and

17 (ii) the future design and operation of
18 the Sentinel system.

19 (c) INFORMATION AND CLEARANCES.—The Secretary
20 of Defense shall ensure that personnel of the National
21 Academy of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine super-
22 vising the implementation of the agreement required by
23 subsection (a), or conducting the review required by such
24 subsection, are granted, in a timely manner, access to the

1 information and security clearances necessary to carry out
2 such review.

3 (d) REPORT REQUIRED.—

4 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 18 months
5 after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Ex-
6 ecutive Officer of the National Academy of Sciences,
7 Engineering, and Medicine shall submit to the con-
8 gressional defense committees a report that includes
9 the findings of the review required by subsection (a).

10 (2) FORM.—The report required by paragraph
11 (1) shall be submitted in unclassified form but may
12 include a classified annex.

13 (e) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

14 (1) CONGRESSIONAL DEFENSE COMMITTEES.—
15 The term “congressional defense committees” has
16 the meaning given the term in section 101(a)(16) of
17 title 10, United States Code.

18 (2) COVERED OPERATIONAL FACILITIES.—The
19 term “covered operational facilities” mean physical
20 structures and work environments associated with
21 the LGM–30G Minuteman III intercontinental bal-
22 listic missile system, including—

23 (A) launch control facilities;

24 (B) launch facilities;

25 (C) missile alert facilities; and

1 (D) other associated facilities.

2 (3) COVERED TOXIC SUBSTANCES.—The term
3 “covered toxic substances” means contaminants and
4 other risk factors that pose a significant health risk
5 to an individual when inhaled, ingested, absorbed by,
6 or in close proximity to, the individual, including—

7 (A) asbestos;

8 (B) radiation;

9 (C) polychlorinated biphenyls;

10 (D) combustion byproducts associated with
11 burning classified materials, accelerants, and
12 industrial solvents;

13 (E) volatile organic compounds (VOCs), in-
14 cluding VOCs from cleaning and maintenance
15 chemicals;

16 (F) radon and naturally occurring radio-
17 active materials in subterranean facilities;

18 (G) hydrogen cyanide, hydrazine, ethylene
19 glycol, and sodium chromate;

20 (H) pesticides and herbicides from facility
21 perimeters and surrounding agricultural runoff;

22 (I) noise; and

23 (J) other chemical compounds or elements
24 associated with the LGM-30G Minuteman III

- 1 intercontinental ballistic missile system or cov-
- 2 ered operational facilities.

○