

111TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 6127

To amend title 38, United States Code, to provide for the continued provision of health care services to certain veterans who were exposed to sodium dichromate while serving as a member of the Armed Forces at or near the water injection plant at Qarmat Ali, Iraq, during Operation Iraqi Freedom.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 15, 2010

Mr. BUYER introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs

A BILL

To amend title 38, United States Code, to provide for the continued provision of health care services to certain veterans who were exposed to sodium dichromate while serving as a member of the Armed Forces at or near the water injection plant at Qarmat Ali, Iraq, during Operation Iraqi Freedom.

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 “Extension of Health
5 Care Eligibility for Veterans Who Served at Qarmat Ali
6 Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS CONTINUED**
2 **PROVISION OF HEALTH CARE SERVICES TO**
3 **CERTAIN VETERANS WHO WERE EXPOSED TO**
4 **SODIUM DICHROMATE WHILE SERVING AS A**
5 **MEMBER OF THE ARMED FORCES AT OR**
6 **NEAR THE WATER INJECTION PLANT AT**
7 **QARMAT ALI, IRAQ, DURING OPERATION**
8 **IRAQI FREEDOM.**

9 (a) IN GENERAL.—Paragraph (1) of section 1710(e)
10 of title 38, United States Code, is amended by adding at
11 the end the following new subparagraph:

12 “(F)(i) Subject to paragraph (2), a veteran described
13 in clause (ii) is eligible for hospital care, medical services,
14 and nursing home care under subsection (a)(2)(F) for any
15 disability, notwithstanding that there is insufficient med-
16 ical evidence to conclude that such disability may be asso-
17 ciated with the exposure described in clause (ii)(II).

18 “(ii) A veteran described in this clause is a veteran
19 who—

20 “(I) served on active duty at or near the water
21 injection plant at Qarmat Ali, Iraq, during Oper-
22 ation Iraqi Freedom;

23 “(II) is notified by the Secretary of possible ex-
24 posure to sodium dichromate (or other toxic sub-
25 stances) occurring during such service; and

1 “(III) enrolls in the patient enrollment system
2 under section 1705 of this title pursuant to clause
3 (i) before the date that is five years after the date
4 on which the Secretary notifies the veteran as de-
5 scribed in subclause (II).

6 “(iii) The Secretary may base a notification described
7 in clause (ii)(II) on information received from the Sec-
8 retary of Defense.”.

9 (b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Paragraph (2)(B)
10 of such section is amended by striking “or (E)” and in-
11 serting “(E), or (F)”.

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