

115TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 6637

To direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to study and report on the prevalence of cholangiocarcinoma in veterans of the Vietnam era, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 26, 2018

Mr. ZELDIN (for himself, Mr. KING of New York, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. SUOZZI, and Miss RICE of New York) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs

A BILL

To direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to study and report on the prevalence of cholangiocarcinoma in veterans of the Vietnam era, 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 “Vietnam Veterans
5 Liver Fluke Cancer Study Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. STUDY ON THE PREVALENCE OF CHOLANGIOCARCI-**
7 **NOMA IN VETERANS OF THE VIETNAM ERA.**

8 (a) EPIDEMIOLOGICAL STUDY.—Not later than 120
9 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary

1 of Veterans Affairs, in consultation with the Director of
2 the Centers of Disease Control and Prevention of the De-
3 partment of Health and Human Services, shall commence
4 an epidemiological study on the prevalence of cholangio-
5 carcinoma in veterans of the Vietnam era, using data from
6 the Veterans Affairs Central Cancer Registry and the Na-
7 tional Program of Cancer Registries. The study shall—

8 (1) identify the rate of incidence of cholangio-
9 carcinoma in veterans of the Vietnam era and in
10 residents of the United States, from the beginning
11 of the Vietnam era to the date of enactment of this
12 Act; and

13 (2) for each of the groups specified in para-
14 graph (1), identify the percentage of individuals with
15 cholangiocarcinoma by various demographic charac-
16 teristics, including by age, gender, race, ethnicity,
17 and the geographic location of the patient at the
18 time of diagnosis.

19 (b) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—Not later than one year
20 after the completion of the study under subsection (a), the
21 Secretary shall submit to Congress a report containing—

22 (1) the results of the study under subsection
23 (a); and

1 (2) recommendations for administrative or leg-
 2 islative actions required to address issues identified
 3 in the study under subsection (a).

4 (c) CONTINUED TRACKING OF
 5 CHOLANGIOCARCINOMA IN VETERANS OF THE VIETNAM
 6 ERA.—The Secretary shall track the prevalence of cholan-
 7 giocarcinoma in veterans of the Vietnam era using the
 8 Veterans Affairs Central Cancer Registry, and provide
 9 such information to Congress as required under subsection
 10 (d).

11 (d) FOLLOW-UP REPORTS.—The Secretary shall pe-
 12 riodically submit to the Congress an updated report under
 13 subsection (b), as determined by the Secretary.

14 (e) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

15 (1) The term “Secretary” means the Secretary
 16 of Veterans Affairs.

17 (2) The term “Vietnam era” has the meaning
 18 given such term in section 101 of title 38, United
 19 States Code.

20 (3) The term “veterans of the Vietnam era”
 21 has the meaning given such term in section 4211 of
 22 title 38, United States Code.

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