

116TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2201

To modify the presumption of service connection for veterans who were exposed to herbicide agents while serving in the Armed Forces in Thailand during the Vietnam era, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 10, 2019

Mr. WESTERMAN (for himself, Mr. TIPTON, Mr. CUNNINGHAM, Mr. MCCLINTOCK, Mr. PANETTA, Mr. GIANFORTE, Mr. PERLMUTTER, Mr. GALLAGHER, Ms. SPEIER, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. KILMER, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER, Mr. HILL of Arkansas, Mrs. DEMINGS, Mr. DEUTCH, and Mr. THOMPSON of California) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs

A BILL

To modify the presumption of service connection for veterans who were exposed to herbicide agents while serving in the Armed Forces in Thailand during 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,*

1 **SECTION 1. MODIFICATION OF PRESUMPTION OF SERVICE**
2 **CONNECTION FOR VETERANS WHO WERE EX-**
3 **POSED TO HERBICIDE AGENTS WHILE SERV-**
4 **ING IN THE ARMED FORCES IN THAILAND**
5 **DURING THE VIETNAM ERA.**

6 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Veterans Affairs
7 shall ensure that if the Secretary creates a presumption
8 of service connection between the occurrence of a disease
9 and exposure to a herbicide agent while serving in the
10 Armed Forces during the Vietnam era at a military base
11 in Thailand, such presumption also applies to exposure to
12 a herbicide agent while serving in the Armed Forces dur-
13 ing the Vietnam era at any military base located in Thai-
14 land without regard to where on the base the veteran was
15 located or what military job specialty the veteran per-
16 formed.

17 (b) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

18 (1) HERBICIDE AGENT.—The term “herbicide
19 agent” has the meaning given such term in section
20 1116(a) of title 38, United States Code.

21 (2) VETERAN AND VIETNAM ERA.—The terms
22 “veteran” and “Vietnam era” have the meaning
23 given such terms in section 101 of title 38, United
24 States Code.

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