

116TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 1896

To amend title 38, United States Code, to provide for a presumption of service connected disability for certain veterans who served in Palomares, Spain, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JUNE 19, 2019

Mr. BLUMENTHAL (for himself, Ms. WARREN, and Mrs. FEINSTEIN) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs

A BILL

To amend title 38, United States Code, to provide for a presumption of service connected disability for certain veterans who served in Palomares, Spain, 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 “Palomares Veterans
5 Act of 2019”.

1 **SEC. 2. PRESUMPTION OF SERVICE CONNECTED DIS-**
2 **ABILITY FOR CERTAIN VETERANS WHO**
3 **SERVED IN PALOMARES, SPAIN.**

4 (a) **DISABILITY COMPENSATION.**—Section
5 1112(c)(3)(B) of title 38, United States Code, is amended
6 by adding at the end the following new clause:

7 “(v) Onsite participation in the response
8 effort following the collision of a United States
9 Air Force B-52 bomber and refueling plane
10 that caused the release of four thermonuclear
11 weapons in the vicinity of Palomares, Spain,
12 during the period beginning January 17, 1966,
13 and ending March 31, 1967.”.

14 (b) **EFFECTIVE DATE AND APPLICABILITY.**—

15 (1) **EFFECTIVE DATE.**—The amendment made
16 by subsection (a) shall take effect on the date of the
17 enactment of this Act.

18 (2) **APPLICABILITY CONCERNING DEPENDENCY**
19 **AND INDEMNITY COMPENSATION.**—For purposes of
20 section 1310 of title 38, United States Code, the
21 amendment made by subsection (a) shall apply with
22 respect to a death notwithstanding whether such
23 death occurred before, on, or after such date.

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