

116TH CONGRESS 1ST SESSION

S. 1105

To require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to establish and maintain a registry for certain individuals who may have been exposed to perand polyfluoroalkyl substances due to the environmental release of aqueous film-forming foam on military installations.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

APRIL 10, 2019

Mrs. Shaheen (for herself, Mr. Rounds, and Ms. Hassan) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs

A BILL

To require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to establish and maintain a registry for certain individuals who may have been exposed to per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances due to the environmental release of aqueous film-forming foam on military installations.

- 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 "PFAS Registry Act
- 5 of 2019".

1	SEC. 2. REGISTRY OF INDIVIDUALS EXPOSED TO PER- AND
2	POLYFLUOROALKYL SUBSTANCES ON MILI-
3	TARY INSTALLATIONS.
4	(a) Establishment of Registry.—
5	(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than one year
6	after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Sec-
7	retary of Veterans Affairs shall—
8	(A) establish and maintain a registry for
9	eligible individuals who may have been exposed
10	to per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (in this
11	section referred to as "PFAS") due to the envi-
12	ronmental release of aqueous film-forming foam
13	(in this section referred to as "AFFF") on mili-
14	tary installations to meet the requirements of
15	military specification MIL-F-24385F;
16	(B) include any information in such reg-
17	istry that the Secretary of Veterans Affairs de-
18	termines necessary to ascertain and monitor the
19	health effects of the exposure of members of the
20	Armed Forces to PFAS associated with AFFF;
21	(C) develop a public information campaign
22	to inform eligible individuals about the registry,
23	including how to register and the benefits of
24	registering; and
25	(D) periodically notify eligible individuals
26	of significant developments in the study and

1	treatment of conditions associated with expo-
2	sure to PFAS.
3	(2) COORDINATION.—The Secretary of Vet-
4	erans Affairs shall coordinate with the Secretary of
5	Defense in carrying out paragraph (1).
6	(b) Reports.—
7	(1) Initial Report.—Not later than two years
8	after the date on which the registry under subsection
9	(a) is established, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs
10	shall submit to Congress an initial report containing
11	the following:
12	(A) An assessment of the effectiveness of
13	actions taken by the Secretary of Veterans Af-
14	fairs and the Secretary of Defense to collect
15	and maintain information on the health effects
16	of exposure to PFAS.
17	(B) Recommendations to improve the col-
18	lection and maintenance of such information.
19	(C) Using established and previously pub-
20	lished epidemiological studies, recommendations
21	regarding the most effective and prudent means
22	of addressing the medical needs of eligible indi-
23	viduals with respect to exposure to PFAS.
24	(2) FOLLOW-UP REPORT.—Not later than five
25	years after submitting the initial report under para-

- graph (1), the Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall submit to Congress a follow-up report containing the following:
 - (A) An update to the initial report submitted under paragraph (1).
 - (B) An assessment of whether and to what degree the content of the registry established under subsection (a) is current and scientifically up-to-date.
- 10 (3) INDEPENDENT SCIENTIFIC ORGANIZA11 TION.—The Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall enter
 12 into an agreement with an independent scientific or13 ganization to prepare the reports under paragraphs
 14 (1) and (2).
- 15 (c) Recommendations for Additional Expo-SURES TO BE INCLUDED.—Not later than five years after 16 the date of the enactment of this Act, and every five years 17 thereafter, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, in consulta-18 tion with the Secretary of Defense and the Administrator 19 of the Environmental Protection Agency, shall submit to 20 21 Congress recommendations for additional chemicals with respect to which individuals exposed to such chemicals 23 should be included in the registry established under subsection (a).

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- 1 (d) Eligible Individual Defined.—In this sec-
- 2 tion, the term "eligible individual" means any individual
- 3 who, on or after a date specified by the Secretary of Vet-
- 4 erans Affairs through regulations, served or is serving in
- 5 the Armed Forces at a military installation where AFFF
- 6 was used or at another location of the Department of De-
- 7 fense where AFFF was used.

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