

116TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2568

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

MAY 7, 2019

Mr. ZELDIN (for himself, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. SUOZZI, Mr. THOMPSON of California, Mr. KING of New York, Miss RICE of New York, and Ms. LOFGREN) 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”.

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

3 (a) EPIDEMIOLOGICAL STUDY.—Not later than 120
4 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary
5 of Veterans Affairs, in consultation with the Director of
6 the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention of the De-
7 partment of Health and Human Services, shall commence
8 an epidemiological study on the prevalence of cholangio-
9 carcinoma in veterans of the Vietnam era, using data from
10 the Veterans Affairs Central Cancer Registry and the Na-
11 tional Program of Cancer Registries. The study shall—

12 (1) identify the rate of incidence of cholangio-
13 carcinoma in veterans of the Vietnam era and in
14 residents of the United States, from the beginning
15 of the Vietnam era to the date of enactment of this
16 Act; and

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

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

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

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

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

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

16 (e) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

17 (1) The term “Secretary” means the Secretary
18 of Veterans Affairs.

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

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

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