

103^D CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2413

To amend title 38, United States Code, to provide additional authority for the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to provide health care for veterans of the Persian Gulf War.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 15, 1993

Mr. CLEMENT introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs

A BILL

To amend title 38, United States Code, to provide additional authority for the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to provide health care for veterans of the Persian Gulf War.

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. AUTHORITY TO PROVIDE HEALTH CARE.**

4 (a) HIGH-PRIORITY CARE.—Section 1710(a)(1)(G)
5 of title 38, United States Code, is amended by striking
6 out “or radiation” and inserting in lieu thereof “, radi-
7 ation, or environmental hazard”.

8 (b) AUTHORIZED INPATIENT CARE.—Section
9 1710(e) of such title is amended—

1 (1) by inserting at the end of paragraph (1) the
2 following new subparagraph:

3 “(C) Subject to paragraphs (2) and (3) of this sub-
4 section, a veteran who the Secretary finds may have been
5 exposed while serving on active duty in the Southwest Asia
6 theater of operations during the Persian Gulf War to a
7 toxic substance or environmental hazard is eligible for hos-
8 pital care and nursing home care under subsection
9 (a)(1)(G) of this section for any disability for which a need
10 for treatment is determined by the Secretary before Octo-
11 ber 1, 1994, notwithstanding that there is insufficient
12 medical evidence to conclude that such disability may be
13 associated with such exposure.”;

14 (2) in paragraph (2), by striking out “subpara-
15 graph (A) or (B)” and inserting in lieu thereof “sub-
16 paragraph (A), (B), or (C)”;

17 (3) in paragraph (3), by striking out the period
18 at the end and inserting in lieu thereof “, or, in the
19 case of care for a veteran described in paragraph
20 (1)(C), after September 30, 1996.”.

21 (c) AUTHORIZED OUTPATIENT CARE.—Section
22 1712(a)(1) of such title is amended—

23 (1) in paragraph (1)—

24 (A) by striking out “and” at the end of
25 subparagraph (B);

1 (B) by striking out the period at the end
2 of subparagraph (C) and inserting in lieu there-
3 of “; and”; and

4 (C) by adding at the end the following:

5 “(D) during the period before October 1, 1996,
6 for any disability for which a need for treatment is
7 determined by the Secretary before October 1, 1994,
8 in the case of a veteran who served on active duty
9 in the Southwest Asia theater of operations during
10 the Persian Gulf War and who the Secretary finds
11 may have been exposed to a toxic substance or envi-
12 ronmental hazard during such service, notwithstand-
13 ing that there is insufficient medical evidence to con-
14 clude that the disability may be associated with such
15 exposure.”; and

16 (2) by adding at the end the following new
17 paragraph:

18 “(7) Medical services may not be furnished under
19 paragraph (1)(D) with respect to a disability that is found,
20 in accordance with guidelines issued by the Under Sec-
21 retary for Health, to have resulted from a cause other
22 than an exposure described in that paragraph.”.

23 **SEC. 2. EFFECTIVE DATE.**

24 The amendments made by section 1 shall take effect
25 as of August 10, 1992.

