

103^D CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

S. 2365

To provide for a study of the health consequences for the spouses and descendants of atomic veterans of the exposure of such veterans to ionizing radiation.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

AUGUST 5, 1994

Mr. WELLSTONE (for himself and Mr. SIMON) introduced the following bill;
which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs

A BILL

To provide for a study of the health consequences for the spouses and descendants of atomic veterans of the exposure of such veterans to ionizing radiation.

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. STUDY OF HEALTH CONSEQUENCES FOR FAM-**
4 **ILY MEMBERS OF ATOMIC VETERANS OF EX-**
5 **POSURE OF ATOMIC VETERANS TO IONIZING**
6 **RADIATION.**

7 (a) AGREEMENT FOR STUDY.—The Secretary of Vet-
8 erans Affairs, in consultation with the Secretary of De-
9 fense and the Secretary of Health and Human Services,

1 shall seek to enter into an agreement with the Medical
2 Follow-up Agency of the Institute of Medicine of the Na-
3 tional Academy of Sciences under which agreement the
4 agency shall carry out the study described in subsection
5 (c).

6 (b) ALTERNATIVE ORGANIZATION.—If the Secretary
7 is unable within a reasonable period of time (as deter-
8 mined by the Secretary) to enter into an agreement with
9 the agency referred to in subsection (a) to carry out the
10 study required under that subsection, the Secretary shall
11 seek to enter into an agreement to carry out the study
12 with another appropriate organization or entity that—

13 (1) is not part of the Government;

14 (2) operates as a not-for-profit entity; and

15 (3) has an expertise and objectivity comparable
16 to that of the agency referred to in subsection (a).

17 (c) NATURE OF STUDY.—The purpose of the study
18 referred to in subsection (a) is to determine the nature
19 and extent, if any, of the relationship between the expo-
20 sure of veterans described in subsection (d) to ionizing ra-
21 diation and the following:

22 (1) Genetic defects and illnesses in the children
23 and grandchildren of such veterans.

1 (2) Untoward pregnancy outcomes experienced
2 by the spouses of such veterans, including stillbirths,
3 miscarriages, and neonatal deaths.

4 (d) COVERED VETERANS.—Subsection (c) applies
5 to—

6 (1) any veteran who was exposed (as deter-
7 mined by the Secretary) to ionizing radiation as a
8 result of—

9 (A) participation while on active duty in
10 the Armed Forces in an atmospheric nuclear
11 test that included the detonation of a nuclear
12 device;

13 (B) service in the Armed Forces with the
14 United States occupation force of Hiroshima or
15 Nagasaki, Japan, before July 1, 1946; or

16 (C) internment or detention as a prisoner
17 of war of Japan before that date in cir-
18 cumstances providing the opportunity for expo-
19 sure to ionizing radiation comparable to the ex-
20 posure of individuals who served with such oc-
21 cupation force before that date; and

22 (2) any other veteran that the Secretary des-
23 ignates for coverage under the study.

24 (e) REPORT.—Not later than each of March 1, 1995,
25 October 1, 1995, October 1, 1996, and October 1, 1997,

1 the Secretary shall submit to the Committees on Veterans'
2 Affairs of the Senate and the House of Representatives
3 a report on the results of the study carried out under this
4 section.

5 (f) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is
6 authorized to be appropriated such sums as may be nec-
7 essary to carry out the study required under this section.

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