

H. Res. __

H.R. 3967 - Honoring our PACT Act of 2021

1. Structured rule for H.R. 3967.
2. Provides one hour of general debate on the bill equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.
3. Waives all points of order against consideration of the bill.
4. Provides that an amendment in the nature of a substitute consisting of the text of Rules Committee Print 117-33, modified by the amendment printed in part A of the Rules Committee report, shall be considered as adopted and the bill, as amended, shall be considered as read.
5. Waives all points of order against provisions in the bill, as amended.
6. Provides that following debate, each further amendment printed in part B of the Rules Committee report not earlier considered as part of amendments en bloc pursuant to section 3 shall be considered only in the order printed in the report, may be offered only by a Member designated in the report, shall be considered as read, shall be debatable for the time specified in the report equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent, may be withdrawn by the proponent at any time before the question is put thereon, shall not be subject to amendment, and shall not be subject to a demand for division of the question.
7. Section 3 provides that at any time after debate the chair of the Committee on Veterans' Affairs or his designee may offer amendments en bloc consisting of further amendments printed in part B of the Rules Committee report not earlier disposed of. Amendments en bloc shall be considered as read, shall be debatable for 20 minutes equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Veterans' Affairs or their designees, shall not be subject to amendment, and shall not be subject to a demand for division of the question.
8. Waives all points of order against the amendments printed in part B of the report and amendments en bloc described in section 3 of the resolution.
9. Provides one motion to recommit.

RESOLUTION

Resolved, That upon adoption of this resolution it shall be in order to consider in the House the bill (H.R. 3967) to improve health care and benefits for veterans exposed to toxic substances, and for other purposes. All points of order against consideration of the bill are waived. An amendment in the nature of a substitute consisting of the text of Rules Committee Print 117–33, modified by the amendment printed in part A of the report of the Committee on Rules accompanying this resolution, shall be considered as adopted. The bill, as amended, shall be considered as read. All points of order against provisions in the bill, as amended, are waived. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the bill, as amended, and on any further amendment thereto, to final passage without intervening motion except: (1) one hour of debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Veterans' Affairs or their respective designees; (2) the further amendments described in section 2 of this resolution; (3) the amendments en bloc described in section 3 of this resolution; and (4) one motion to recommit.

Sec. 2. After debate pursuant to the first section of this resolution, each further amendment printed in part B of the report of the Committee on Rules not earlier considered as part of amendments en bloc pursuant to section 3 of this resolution shall be considered only in the order printed in the report, may be offered only by a Member designated in the report, shall be considered as read, shall be debatable for the time specified in the report equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent, may be withdrawn by the proponent at any time before the question is put thereon, shall not be subject to amendment, and shall not be subject to a demand for division of the question.

Sec. 3. It shall be in order at any time after debate pursuant to the first section of this resolution for the chair of the Committee on Veterans' Affairs or his designee to offer amendments en bloc consisting of further amendments printed in part B of the report of the Committee on Rules accompanying this resolution not earlier disposed of. Amendments en bloc offered pursuant to this section shall be considered as read, shall be debatable for 20 minutes equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Veterans' Affairs or their respective designees, shall not be subject to amendment, and shall not be subject to a demand for division of the question.

Sec. 4. All points of order against the further amendments printed in part B of the report of the Committee on Rules or amendments en bloc described in section 3 of this resolution are waived.

**SUMMARY OF AMENDMENT TO H.R. 3967 IN PART A PROPOSED TO
BE CONSIDERED AS ADOPTED**

Sponsor	# Description
1. Takano (CA)	#36 (LATE) (REVISED) (MANAGER’S) Revises the seating of members on the Federal Advisory Committee created in Title II of the bill, to ensure for staggered terms. Authorizes the Secretary of the Veterans Administration to allow for claimants to opt-in to receiving notifications through electronic communication. Adds Thule, Greenland to the list of locations to which veterans are presumed to have been exposed to radiation. Authorizes funding for an expansion of VA’s disability claims automation system. Creates a Veterans Toxic Exposure Fund to authorize funding for the activities in the bill.

**SUMMARY OF AMENDMENTS TO H.R. 3967 IN PART B PROPOSED TO
BE MADE IN ORDER**

(summaries derived from information provided by sponsors)

Sponsor	# Description	Debate Time
1. Bush, Cori (MO)	#17 Includes race and ethnicity as a demographic for a study on the incidence of cancer in veterans.	(10 minutes)
2. Bush, Cori (MO)	#18 Includes race, age, period of service, military occupation, gender, and disability status of veterans in an epidemiological study on the health trends of veterans who served in the Armed Forces after September 11, 2001.	(10 minutes)
3. Bush, Cori (MO)	#22 Amends the review of known cases of toxic exposure on military installations of the Department of Defense to include both in the United States and abroad.	(10 minutes)
4. Bush, Cori (MO)	#32 Includes a study on veteran health outcomes related to waste from the Manhattan project in St. Louis.	(10 minutes)

5. **Bost (IL)** #27 **(SUBSTITUTE)** Replaces the text of the bill (10 minutes)
with the Health Care for Burn Pit Veterans Act, which expands healthcare eligibility for certain combat veterans exposed to toxic substances to last for ten years after separation instead of five years, requires toxic exposure-related education and training for VA personnel, and requires screenings and studies to better identify potential associations between veteran medical conditions and toxic exposure.
6. **Brownley (CA), Miller-Meeks (IA)** #33 **(LATE)** Ensures toxic exposed veterans have (10 minutes)
access to mammography screenings.
7. **Cartwright (PA)** #15 Requires the Secretary of the VA to share a list of (10 minutes)
resources for toxic-exposed veterans, caregivers of toxic-exposed veterans, and survivors of toxic-exposed vets with national veterans services organizations and other veteran groups.
8. **Gibbs (OH)** #41 **(LATE) (REVISED)** Allows veterans an (10 minutes)
additional 24-hour period, at minimum, to notify the VA when receiving care at a non-VA facility. This additional time-period will allow flexibility if a veteran needs additional time to recoup from a severe medical condition or if they are dealing with other complicating factors.
9. **Golden (ME), Wild (PA)** #31 Ensures that mental health services and (10 minutes)
counseling are included when providing hospital services to give holistic care for affected veterans.
10. **Gottheimer (NJ)** #3 Requires a study by the Department of Veterans (10 minutes)
Affairs to examine the possible relationship between toxic exposures experienced during service in the Armed Forces and mental health outcomes.
11. **Gottheimer (NJ)** #13 Defines outreach materials on illnesses that may (10 minutes)
be related to toxic exposure as fact sheets under the Veterans and Family Information Act.
12. **Hartzler (MO)** #5 Enhances VA hiring competitiveness by allowing (10 minutes)
VA to release physicians from non-compete agreements after committing to VA service for at least one year, authorizes VA to make job offers up to 2 years prior to completion of residency and updates statutory minimum requirements for VA

physicians to include medical residency.

- 13. Jackson Lee (TX)** #34 **(LATE)** Adds a study on whether data collection established under this bill should include data on the toxic exposure of National Guard service personnel when deployed in connection with a natural disaster in the United States or its territories. (10 minutes)
- 14. Levin, Andy (MI), Wild (PA)** #25 Amends the definition of "illnesses" to include both mental and physical health. (10 minutes)
- 15. Levin, Mike (CA)** #1 **(REVISED)** Adds a new section similar to the Commitment to Veteran Support and Outreach Act, which authorizes VA to award grants to expand outreach and claims assistance carried out through County Veterans Service Officers (CVSOs). (10 minutes)
- 16. Newman (IL)** #6 Requires the Department of Defense (DOD) to conduct a study on the exposure of members of the Armed Forces to herbicide agents, including Agent Orange and Agent Purple, in the Panama Canal Zone during the period beginning on January 1, 1958, and ending on December 31, 1999. (10 minutes)
- 17. Pappas (NH)** #14 Requires coordination between the Department of Defense and the Department of Veterans Affairs to establish guidelines used for training active duty personnel to provide awareness of potential risks of toxic exposure, as well as ways to prevent such exposures during combat. (10 minutes)
- 18. Plaskett (VI)** #35 **(LATE)** Requires a GAO study and report on access and barriers to veterans benefits and services for veterans in territories of the United States. (10 minutes)
- 19. Porter (CA)** #11 Directs the Department of Veterans Affairs to establish a public website, housed within the War Related Illness and Injury Study Center of the Department, to be a clearinghouse for the publication of all Federally funded research on toxic exposure. (10 minutes)
- 20. Ross (NC), Rouzer (NC)** #7 **(REVISED)** Requires the DOD to submit to Congress a report on sources of PFAS on military installations other than AFFF and any recommendation regarding whether to expand (10 minutes)

eligibility for the registry to individuals exposed to PFAS from other sources.

- 21. Ruiz (CA), Slotkin (MI), Welch (VT), Bilirakis (FL)** #19 **(REVISED)** Requires the Department of Defense (DOD) to provide budget information regarding incinerators and waste-to-energy waste disposal alternatives to burn pits. DOD must include the information as a dedicated budget line item in the President's FY2023 through the Fiscal Year 2027 budget. (10 minutes)
- 22. Ruiz (CA), Ryan (OH), González-Colón, Jenniffer (PR)** #21 **(REVISED)** Allows veterans in the burn pits registry to designate a registered individual or an immediate family member to update the registry with the cause of death of the individual. (10 minutes)
- 23. Ryan (OH), Mast (FL), Kelly, Trent (MS), Fitzpatrick (PA), Cheney (WY), Young (AK), Ruiz (CA), Hayes (CT), Cartwright (PA)** #12 **(REVISED)** Adds the text of the SFC Heath Robinson Burn Pit Transparency Act, which requires the Department of the VA to document, track, and then notify Congress of specified data points related to exposure cases as reported by veterans to the VA. (10 minutes)
- 24. Scanlon (PA)** #9 Authorizes \$150,000,000 for fiscal year 2023 to expand capacity of the Veterans Benefits Management System of the Department of Veterans Affairs to accommodate expected increased claims processing for newly eligible veterans. (10 minutes)
- 25. Slotkin (MI)** #24 Creates an interagency working group to 1) Identify collaborative research activities and resources, 2) Establish a 5-year strategic plan for coordination/planning for research surrounding toxic exposure, and 3) Submit a report to the VA Secretary with milestones/goals as part of the implementation. (10 minutes)
- 26.** #39 **(LATE)** Requires the Secretary of Veterans (10 minutes)

**Spanberger
(VA)**

Affairs to submit a publicly available report to Congress that includes (1) a discussion of the effect of various different types of jet fuels used by the Armed Forces on the health of individuals by length of exposure; (2) an identification of the immediate symptoms of jet fuel exposure that may indicate future health risks; (3) a chronology of health safeguards implemented by the Armed Forces intended to reduce the exposure of members of the Armed Forces to jet fuel; and (4) an identification of any areas relating to jet fuel exposure about which new research needs to be conducted.

**27. Torres,
Norma
(CA)**

#4 Requires the publication of the list of resources provided by the VA to toxic-exposed veterans be made available in English, Spanish, Chinese, and the 7 other most commonly spoken languages in the United States. (10 minutes)

**28. Torres,
Norma
(CA)**

#8 Revises Section 505 to include language about the feasibility and advisability of VA looking at available early detection diagnostics and how they might be incorporated into veterans' care. (10 minutes)