

[DISCUSSION DRAFT]

119TH CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

H. R. _____

To amend title 38, United States Code, to establish the Office for Toxic Exposure Implementation and Oversight of the Department of Veterans Affairs and an Assistant Secretary of Veterans Affairs for Toxic Exposure Coordination.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

M____ introduced the following bill; which was referred to the
Committee on _____

A BILL

To amend title 38, United States Code, to establish the Office for Toxic Exposure Implementation and Oversight of the Department of Veterans Affairs and an Assistant Secretary of Veterans Affairs for Toxic Exposure Coordination.

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 “Toxic Exposure Advi-
5 sory Committee Establishment Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. TOXIC EXPOSURE IMPLEMENTATION AND OVER-**
2 **SIGHT OF THE DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS**
3 **AFFAIRS: OFFICE; ASSISTANT SECRETARY.**

4 (a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 3 of title 38, United
5 States Code, is amended by adding at the end the fol-
6 lowing new section:

7 **“§ 326. Office for Toxic Exposure Implementation and**
8 **Oversight**

9 “(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is in the Department
10 an Office of Toxic Exposure Coordination and Oversight.
11 The head of the Office is the Assistant Secretary for Toxic
12 Exposure Coordination.

13 “(b) RESPONSIBILITIES.—The Office shall be respon-
14 sible for the coordination, within the Department, of the
15 strategies, workforce management, and oversight nec-
16 essary for the implementation of—

17 “(1) the Honoring Our PACT Act of 2022
18 (Public Law 117–168), including the amendments
19 made by such Act; and

20 “(2) the other laws administered by the Sec-
21 retary relating to toxic-exposure and toxic-exposed
22 veterans.”.

23 (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections
24 at the beginning of such chapter is amended by inserting

1 after the item relating to section 324 the following new
2 item:

“326. Office for Toxic Exposure Implementation and Oversight.”.

3 (c) APPOINTMENT OF ASSISTANT SECRETARY.—Sec-
4 tion 308 of such title is amended—

5 (1) in subsection (a), by striking “seven” and
6 inserting “eight”; and

7 (2) in subsection (b), by adding at the end the
8 following new paragraph:

9 “(13) Functions relating to toxic exposure and
10 toxic-exposed veterans.”.