

Suspend the Rules and Pass the Bill, H.R. 530, with An Amendment

(The amendment strikes all after the enacting clause and inserts a new text)

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 530

To provide for a study by the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine on the prevalence and mortality of cancer among individuals who served as active duty aircrew in the Armed Forces, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 16, 2025

Mr. PFLUGER (for himself, Mr. PANETTA, Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS, Mr. RYAN, Mr. WITTMAN, Mr. MOULTON, Mr. ELLZEY, Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina, Ms. VAN DUYN, Mr. VALADAO, Mr. WEBSTER of Florida, Ms. LEE of Nevada, Mr. SIMPSON, and Mr. SCOTT FRANKLIN of Florida) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs

A BILL

To provide for a study by the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine on the prevalence and mortality of cancer among individuals who served as active duty aircrew in the Armed Forces, 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,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “ACES Act”.

3 **SEC. 2. NATIONAL ACADEMIES STUDY ON PREVALENCE**
4 **AND MORTALITY OF CANCER AMONG INDIVIDUALS WHO SERVED AS ACTIVE DUTY AIR-**
5 **CREW IN THE ARMED FORCES.**

6 (a) AGREEMENT.—

7 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 30 days after
8 the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary
9 of Veterans Affairs shall seek to enter into an agree-
10 ment with the National Academies of Sciences, En-
11 gineering, and Medicine (in this section referred to
12 as the “National Academies”), under which the Na-
13 tional Academies shall conduct a study on the preva-
14 lence and mortality of cancers among covered indi-
15 viduals.

16 (2) DEADLINE.—

17 (A) DATE.—The Secretary shall finalize
18 the agreement under paragraph (1) by not later
19 than 60 days after the date on which the Sec-
20 retary enters negotiations with the National
21 Academies with respect to such agreement.

22 (B) REPORT; BRIEFINGS.—If the Secretary
23 fails to satisfy the requirement under subpara-
24 graph (A), the Secretary shall—
25

1 (i) submit to the Committees on Vet-
2 erans' Affairs of the House of Representa-
3 tives and the Senate a report that in-
4 cludes—

5 (I) an explanation of the reasons
6 the Secretary failed to satisfy such re-
7 quirement; and

8 (II) an estimate of the date on
9 which the Secretary will finalize the
10 agreement under paragraph (1); and

11 (ii) not less frequently than once every
12 60 days after the date on which the Sec-
13 retary failed to satisfy such requirement,
14 provide to the Committees on Veterans'
15 Affairs of the House of Representatives
16 and the Senate a briefing on the progress
17 of the Secretary toward finalizing such
18 agreement.

19 (b) STUDY.—The study required under subsection (a)
20 shall—

21 (1) identify exposures associated with military
22 occupations of covered individuals, including relating
23 to chemicals, compounds, agents, and other phe-
24 nomena;

1 (2) review the literature to determine associa-
2 tions between exposures referred to in paragraph (1)
3 and the incidence or prevalence of overall cancer
4 morbidity, overall cancer mortality, and increased in-
5 cidence or prevalence of—

6 (A) brain cancer;

7 (B) colon and rectal cancers;

8 (C) kidney cancer;

9 (D) lung cancer;

10 (E) melanoma skin cancer;

11 (F) non-Hodgkin lymphoma;

12 (G) pancreatic cancer;

13 (H) prostate cancer;

14 (I) testicular cancer;

15 (J) thyroid cancer;

16 (K) urinary bladder cancer; and

17 (L) other cancers as determined appro-

18 priate by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, in

19 consultation with the National Academies; and

20 (3) determine, to the extent possible, the preva-

21 lence of and mortality from the cancers specified in

22 paragraph (2) among covered individuals by using

23 available sources of data, which may include—

24 (A) health care and other administrative

25 databases of the Department of Veterans Af-

1 fairs, the Department of Defense, and the indi-
2 vidual Services, respectively;

3 (B) the national death index maintained by
4 the National Center for Health Statistics of the
5 Centers for Disease Control and Prevention;
6 and

7 (C) the study conducted under section 750
8 of the William M. (Mac) Thornberry National
9 Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2021
10 (Public Law 116–283; 134 Stat. 3716).

11 (c) REPORT.—At the conclusion of the study required
12 under subsection (a), the National Academies shall submit
13 to the Secretary and to the Committees on Veterans’ Af-
14 fairs of the House of Representatives and the Senate a
15 report containing the results of the study described in sub-
16 section (b).

17 (d) COVERED INDIVIDUAL DEFINED.—In this sec-
18 tion, the term “covered individual” means an individual
19 who served on active duty in the Army, Navy, Air Force,
20 or Marine Corps as an aircrew member of a fixed-wing
21 aircraft, including as a pilot, navigator, weapons systems
22 operator, aircraft system operator, or any other crew
23 member who regularly flew in a fixed-wing aircraft.

1 **SEC. 3. EXTENSION OF CERTAIN LIMITS ON PAYMENTS OF**
2 **PENSION.**

3 Section 5503(d)(7) of title 38, United States Code,
4 is amended by striking “November 30, 2031” and insert-
5 ing “December 31, 2031”.