

Toxic Exposure in the American Military Act (S. 4393)

- The most ambitious and comprehensive legislation on military toxic exposures ever introduced.
- The *TEAM Act* is the culmination of nearly two years of collaboration by the [TEAM Coalition](#) of more than 30 VSOs seeking to improve benefits for veterans suffering from toxic exposures like burn pits.
- We are calling on Congress to pass this legislation before the end of the year. Toxic exposures should not be this generation's Agent Orange - exposed veterans should not be forced to wait decades for care.
- The bill fundamentally reforms and improves how veterans exposed to toxic substances receive health care and benefits from the VA.
- The *TEAM Act* ensures that eligible veterans who have received hazardous duty pay and who have suffered burn pits and other toxic exposures during their service will have access to VA health care and testing, regardless of whether they have been enrolled at the VA.
- Develops an online portal for veterans to access the Individual Longitudinal Exposure Record (ILER) - a new DoD database that can show the veteran or servicemember what they were likely exposed to during their deployments. Unfortunately, veterans now must FOIA their information to receive it.
- VA will also be required to analyze ILER and VHA data to identify high risk groups proactively, using its internal National Artificial Intelligence Institute
- Expands training on toxic exposure issues for VA health care and benefits personnel, and requires VA to develop a questionnaire for primary care appointments to help determine whether a veteran may have been exposed to toxic substances during service.
- Establishes a scientific commission to research the health effects of toxic exposure in veterans and report the commission's findings to VA and Congress.
- Requires VA to respond to new scientific evidence regarding diseases associated with toxic exposure within an established timeframe.
- Ensures VA enters into agreements with the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine to conduct scientific studies regarding links between diseases and toxic exposures during military service.