

116TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 7598

To direct the Secretary of Defense to include information on exposure to open burn pits in postdeployment health reassessments of members of the Armed Forces.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 13, 2020

Mr. RUIZ (for himself and Mr. WELCH) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Armed Services

A BILL

To direct the Secretary of Defense to include information on exposure to open burn pits in postdeployment health reassessments of members of the Armed Forces.

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. INCLUSION OF INFORMATION ON EXPOSURE**
4 **TO OPEN BURN PITS IN POSTDEPLOYMENT**
5 **HEALTH REASSESSMENTS.**

6 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Defense shall in-
7 clude in postdeployment health reassessments conducted
8 under section 1074f of title 10, United States Code, pur-
9 suant to a Department of Defense Form 2796, or suc-

1 cessor form, an independent and conspicuous question re-
2 garding exposure of members of the Armed Forces to open
3 burn pits.

4 (b) INCLUSION IN ASSESSMENTS BY MILITARY DE-
5 PARTMENTS.—The Secretary of Defense shall ensure that
6 the Secretary of each military department includes a ques-
7 tion regarding exposure of members of the Armed Forces
8 to open burn pits in any electronic postdeployment health
9 assessment conducted by that military department.

10 (c) OPEN BURN PIT DEFINED.—In this section, the
11 term “open burn pit” has the meaning given that term
12 in section 201(c) of the Dignified Burial and Other Vet-
13 erans’ Benefits Improvement Act of 2012 (Public Law
14 112–260; 38 U.S.C. 527 note).

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