

115TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 1283

To authorize the award of a military service medal to members of the Armed Forces who were exposed to ionizing radiation as a result of participation in the testing of nuclear weapons or under other circumstances.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MAY 25, 2017

Mr. MARKEY introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Armed Services

A BILL

To authorize the award of a military service medal to members of the Armed Forces who were exposed to ionizing radiation as a result of participation in the testing of nuclear weapons or under other circumstances.

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 “Atomic Veterans Serv-
5 ice Medal Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. ATOMIC VETERANS SERVICE MEDAL.**

7 (a) SERVICE MEDAL REQUIRED.—The Secretary of
8 Defense shall design and produce a military service medal,

1 to be known as the “Atomic Veterans Service Medal”, to
2 honor retired and former members of the Armed Forces
3 who are radiation-exposed veterans.

4 (b) DISTRIBUTION OF MEDAL.—

5 (1) ISSUANCE TO RETIRED AND FORMER MEM-
6 BERS.—At the request of a radiation-exposed vet-
7 eran, the Secretary of Defense shall issue the Atom-
8 ic Veterans Service Medal to the veteran.

9 (2) ISSUANCE TO NEXT-OF-KIN.—In the case of
10 a radiation-exposed veteran who is deceased, the
11 Secretary may provide for issuance of the Atomic
12 Veterans Service Medal to the next-of-kin of the per-
13 son.

14 (3) APPLICATION.—The Secretary shall prepare
15 and disseminate as appropriate an application by
16 which radiation-exposed veterans and their next-of-
17 kin may apply to receive the Atomic Veterans Serv-
18 ice Medal.

19 (c) RADIATION EXPOSED VETERAN DEFINED.—In
20 this section, the term “radiation-exposed veteran” has the
21 meaning given such term in section 1112(c)(3) of title 38,
22 United States Code.

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