

118TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 1681

To amend the Radiation Exposure Compensation Act with respect to claims relating to uranium mining.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MAY 18, 2023

Ms. LUMMIS introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance

A BILL

To amend the Radiation Exposure Compensation Act with respect to claims relating to uranium mining.

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 “Uranium Miners and
5 Workers Act of 2023”.

6 **SEC. 2. CLAIMS RELATING TO URANIUM MINING.**

7 (a) IN GENERAL.—Subparagraph (A) of section
8 5(a)(1) of the Radiation Exposure Compensation Act
9 (Public Law 101–426; 42 U.S.C. 2210 note) is amended
10 to read as follows:

1 “(A) that individual—

2 “(i) was employed—

3 “(I) in a uranium mine or ura-
4 nium mill (including any individual
5 who was employed in the transport of
6 uranium ore or vanadium-uranium ore
7 from such mine or mill) located in Ar-
8 izona, Colorado, Idaho, New Mexico,
9 North Dakota, Oregon, South Dakota,
10 Texas, Utah, Washington, Wyoming,
11 or any other State for which the At-
12 torney General makes a determination
13 for inclusion of eligibility; and

14 “(II) at any time during the pe-
15 riod beginning on January 1, 1942,
16 and ending on December 31, 1978;
17 and

18 “(ii)(I) was a miner exposed to 40 or
19 more working level months of radiation or
20 worked for at least 1 year during the pe-
21 riod described under clause (i)(II) and sub-
22 mits written medical documentation that
23 the individual, after that exposure, devel-
24 oped lung cancer, a nonmalignant res-
25 piratory disease, renal cancer, or any other

1 chronic renal disease, including nephritis
2 and kidney tubal tissue injury; or

3 “(II) was a miller, ore transporter, or
4 core driller who worked for at least 1 year
5 during the period described under clause
6 (i)(II) and submits written medical docu-
7 mentation that the individual, after that
8 exposure, developed lung cancer, a non-
9 malignant respiratory disease, renal can-
10 cer, or any other chronic renal disease, in-
11 cluding nephritis and kidney tubal tissue
12 injury;”.

13 (b) TRANSFER OF FUNDS.—For individuals who are
14 eligible for payments described in subparagraph (A) of
15 section 5(a)(1) of the Radiation Exposure Compensation
16 Act (Public Law 101–426; 42 U.S.C. 2210 note), as
17 amended by subsection (a), the Secretary of the Treasury
18 shall transfer, not later than 60 days after the date of
19 enactment of this Act, \$475,000,000 to the Radiation Ex-
20 posure Compensation Trust Fund established under sec-
21 tion 3 of the Radiation Exposure Compensation Act, out
22 of unobligated amounts appropriated for purposes of
23 coronavirus response under any of the following:

1 (1) The Coronavirus Preparedness and Re-
2 sponse Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2020
3 (Public Law 116–123; 134 Stat. 146).

4 (2) The Families First Coronavirus Response
5 Act (Public Law 116–127; 134 Stat. 178).

6 (3) The CARES Act (Public Law 116–136; 134
7 Stat. 281).

8 (4) The Paycheck Protection Program and
9 Health Care Enhancement Act (Public Law 116–
10 139; 134 Stat. 620).

11 (5) Divisions M and N of the Consolidated Ap-
12 propriations Act, 2021 (Public Law 116–260; 134
13 Stat. 1182).

14 (6) The American Rescue Plan Act of 2021
15 (Public Law 117–2; 135 Stat. 4).

16 (7) An amendment made by a provision of law
17 described in any of paragraphs (1) through (6).

18 **SEC. 3. REAUTHORIZATION OF THE RADIATION EXPOSURE**

19 **COMPENSATION ACT.**

20 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 3(d) of the Radiation Ex-
21 posure Compensation Act (Public Law 101–426; 42
22 U.S.C. 2210 note) is amended by striking the first sen-
23 tence and inserting “The Fund shall terminate on the date
24 that is 4 years after the date of enactment of the Uranium
25 Miners and Workers Act of 2023.”.

1 (b) LIMITATION ON CLAIMS.—Section 8(a) of the Ra-
2 diation Exposure Compensation Act (Public Law 101–
3 426; 42 U.S.C. 2210 note) is amended by striking “not
4 later than 2 years after the date of enactment of the
5 RECA Extension Act of 2022” and inserting “not later
6 than 4 years after the date of enactment of the Uranium
7 Miners and Workers Act of 2023”.

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