

111TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# S. 1940

To require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to carry out a study on the effects on children of exposure of their parents to herbicides used in support of the United States and allied military operations in the Republic of Vietnam during the Vietnam era, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

OCTOBER 27, 2009

Mrs. GILLIBRAND introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs

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## A BILL

To require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to carry out a study on the effects on children of exposure of their parents to herbicides used in support of the United States and allied military operations in the Republic of Vietnam during the Vietnam era, 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. STUDY ON ASSOCIATION BETWEEN DISEASES**  
2 **IN CHILDREN AND EXPOSURE OF PARENTS**  
3 **TO HERBICIDE AGENTS USED IN SUPPORT OF**  
4 **MILITARY OPERATIONS IN VIETNAM.**

5 (a) **IN GENERAL.**—Not later than one year after the  
6 date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Vet-  
7 erans Affairs shall complete a study on the effects on chil-  
8 dren of exposure of their parents to herbicides used in sup-  
9 port of the United States and allied military operations  
10 in the Republic of Vietnam during the Vietnam era.

11 (b) **REVIEW OF SCIENTIFIC EVIDENCE.**—As part of  
12 the study required by subsection (a), the Secretary shall  
13 review and evaluate the available scientific evidence re-  
14 garding associations between diseases in children, includ-  
15 ing multiple sclerosis and asthma, and the exposure of  
16 their parents to dioxin and other chemical compounds in  
17 herbicides described in subsection (a).

18 (c) **REPORT.**—Not later than one year after the date  
19 of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall submit  
20 to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs of the Senate and  
21 the Committee on Veterans' Affairs of the House of a Rep-  
22 resentatives a report on the findings of the Secretary as  
23 a result of the study required by subsection (a).

1       (d) VIETNAM ERA DEFINED.—In this section, the  
2 term “Vietnam era” has the meaning given the term in  
3 section 101 of title 38, United States Code.

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