

Toxic Wounds Legislation (2021)

Researched and Prepared by Veterans for Common Sense, as of June 24, 2021					
	COST of War Act (SVAC)	Honoring our PACT Act (HVAC)	VA via rulemaking	K2 Veterans Care Act of 2021	Sen. Amendment to COST of War Act (S.A. ___)
Expands VA healthcare to:					
	<p>YES: (1) Any veteran who participated in a toxic exposure risk activity while serving on active duty, active duty for training, or inactive duty training. 'toxic exposure' means: (A) A toxic exposure risk activity; or (B) An exposure to a toxic or hazardous substance that is subject to OSHA regulation. 'toxic exposure risk activity means any activity-- that requires a corresponding entry in ILER, or that SecVA determines qualifies. (2) Registry locations: eligible for inclusion in the Airborne Hazards and Open Burn Pit Registry (AH&OBP). (3) Medals: on or after August 2, 1990, was awarded any of the following: Afghanistan Campaign Medal (ACM); Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal (AFEM); Global War On Terrorism Expeditionary Medal (GWOT-EM); Inherent Resolve Campaign Medal (IRCM); Iraqi Campaign Medal (ICM); Southwest Asia Service Medal (SWASM).</p>	<p>YES: Toxic exposed veterans. "toxic exposure" includes: toxic exposure risk activity, as defined in 38 USC 1710(e)(4); or an exposure to a substance, chemical, airborne hazard specified in section 1119(b)(2) [[[covered veterans for particulates, PAHs, VOCs, dioxins: (A) on or after August 2, 1990, performed active military, naval, or air service while assigned to a duty station in—Bahrain, Iraq Kuwait; Oman; Qatar; Saudi Arabia; Somalia; or United Arab Emirates (UAE); or (B) on or after September 11, 2001, performed active military, naval, or air service while assigned to a duty station in—Afghanistan; Djibouti; Egypt; Jordan; Lebanon; Syria; Yemen; Uzbekistan; the Philippines; or any other country determined relevant by the SecVA.]]]</p>	<p align="center">Unclear</p> <p>(If yes, covered veterans for the presumed exposure to particulates include Southwest Asia (SWA), Afghanistan, Uzbekistan during the PGW; and SWA after September 19, 2001)</p>	<p>YES: For veterans who served at Karshi Khanabad Air Base (K2), Uzbekistan (January 1, 2001 - December 31, 2005), healthcare for any illness or disease for which the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine (NASEM) determines has a positive association, including a sufficient, limited, or suggestive association, with exposure to any of the following substances: jet fuel, VOCs, high levels of particulates from burn pits; depleted uranium (DU), asbestos, lead-based paint.</p>	<p align="center">YES</p> <p>(retains COST of War Act coverage)</p> <p>Adds: veterans who served at Karshi Khanabad Air Base (K2), Uzbekistan (January 1, 2001 - December 31, 2005), healthcare for any illness.</p>

Bills and relevant sections for presumptive conditions and covered veterans are:

1) COST of War Act ("Comprehensive and Overdue Support for Troops of War Act of 2021", S. ____, Sen. Tester): Sections 101-103. [BAG21800 K6S].

2) Honoring our PACT Act ("Honoring our Promise to Address Comprehensive Toxics Act of 2021", H.R. ____, Rep. Takano): Sections 102-103. [HR 3697 IH]

3) VA rulemaking, as publicly announced on May 27, 2021 as forthcoming, via presuming exposure to particulates for covered veterans: ""Veterans who served in the Southwest Asia theater of operations during the Persian Gulf War and/or after September 19, 2001, or in Afghanistan and Uzbekistan during the Persian Gulf War."

B) "K2 Veterans Care Act of 2021" (S. 454, Sen. Blumenthal, Baldwin, et al; H.R. 1355, Rep. Lynch, Green, et al): Section 3. [S 454 IS].

C) Sen. Amendment, S.A. ____. [HEY21637 6RN].