



# Senate

General Assembly

**File No. 523**

*January Session, 2005*

Substitute Senate Bill No. 1245

*Senate, April 26, 2005*

The Committee on Public Health reported through SEN. MURPHY of the 16th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the Senate, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

***AN ACT CONCERNING THE STUDY OF THE HEALTH EFFECTS OF EXPOSURE TO HAZARDOUS MATERIALS INCLUDING DEPLETED URANIUM.***

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. (*Effective from passage*) (a) There is established a task force  
2 to study the health effects of the exposure to hazardous materials,  
3 including, but not limited to, depleted uranium, as they relate to  
4 military service. The task force shall: (1) Commission a study to  
5 consider the health of service members who may have been exposed to  
6 hazardous materials since August 2, 1990, and conduct a scientific  
7 conference on such health effects, which shall include the evaluation of  
8 screening methods to detect exposure to depleted uranium and other  
9 hazardous materials, including current methods in the United States,  
10 and methods used in other countries; (2) initiate a health registry for  
11 veterans and military personnel returning from Afghanistan, Iraq or  
12 other countries in which depleted uranium or other hazardous  
13 materials may be found; (3) develop a plan for outreach to and follow-

14 up of military personnel; (4) prepare a report for service members  
15 concerning potential exposure to depleted uranium and other toxic  
16 chemical substances and the precautions recommended under combat  
17 and noncombat conditions while in a combat zone; and (5) make any  
18 other recommendations the task force considers appropriate.

19 (b) The task force shall consist of the following members:

20 (1) The chairpersons and ranking members of the select committee  
21 of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to  
22 military and veterans' affairs;

23 (2) The Commissioner of Veterans' Affairs or a designee;

24 (3) An employee of the Department of Public Health, designated by  
25 the Commissioner of Public Health, who has knowledge of or  
26 experience in the detection or health effects of exposure to depleted  
27 uranium;

28 (4) Four members appointed by the chairpersons of such select  
29 committee who are physicians or scientists with knowledge of or  
30 experience in the detection or health effects of exposure to depleted  
31 uranium or other hazardous materials; and

32 (5) Two veterans appointed by the chairpersons of such select  
33 committee who have knowledge of or experience with exposure to  
34 hazardous materials.

35 (c) All appointments to the task force shall be made no later than  
36 thirty days after the effective date of this section. Any vacancy shall be  
37 filled by the appointing authority.

38 (d) The chairpersons of such select committee shall be the  
39 chairpersons of the task force. The chairpersons of the task force shall  
40 schedule the first meeting of the task force, which shall be held no later  
41 than sixty days after the effective date of this section.

42 (e) The administrative staff of the select committee of the General



The following fiscal impact statement and bill analysis are prepared for the benefit of members of the General Assembly, solely for the purpose of information, summarization, and explanation, and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either House thereof for any purpose:

### **OFA Fiscal Note**

#### **State Impact:**

<b>Agency Affected</b>	<b>Fund-Effect</b>	<b>FY 06 \$</b>
Legislative Mgmt.; Public Health, Dept.; Department of Veterans' Affairs	GF - See Below	See Below
Legislative Mgmt.	GF - Cost	Potential Minimal

Note: GF=General Fund

**Municipal Impact:** None

#### **Explanation**

The bill establishes a task force to study the health effects of the exposure to hazardous materials, including, but not limited to depleted uranium, as they relate to military service. The bill further places a number of requirements on the task force including: 1) commissioning a study and conducting a scientific conference on such health effects; 2) initiating a health registry for veterans and military personnel returning from Afghanistan or Iraq; 3) developing a plan for outreach and follow-up of military personnel; 4) preparing a report concerning potential exposure to depleted uranium and other toxic substances; 5) make any other recommendations.

The task force shall report not later than January 31, 2006 to the Select Committee on Veterans' Affairs. The task force members shall consist of the chairpersons and ranking members of the select committee on veterans' affairs; the commissioner (or a designee) of the Departments of Veterans' Affairs and Public Health; and various other appointed members. The administrative staff of the veterans' affairs committee shall serve as administrative staff to the task force.

The cost of the study to be commissioned and the scientific conference is unknown, as it depends on how the task force will

implement these provisions (for instance, if the task force members complete the study themselves or contract out for it). To the extent that a cost results from the study and conference, the bill is not clear as to which agency would support these costs. There is no fiscal impact anticipated to result from participation of the appointed members of the task force, except for the legislative members where a minimal cost to Legislative Management for mileage reimbursement will result (currently 40.5 cents a mile). It is anticipated that staff of the Veterans Affairs committee can serve as administrative staff to the task force which will result in no fiscal impact.

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**OLR Bill Analysis**

sSB 1245

***AN ACT CONCERNING THE STUDY OF THE HEALTH EFFECTS  
OF EXPOSURE TO HAZARDOUS MATERIALS INCLUDING  
DEPLETED URANIUM***

**SUMMARY:**

The Office of Legislative Research does not analyze Special Acts.

**COMMITTEE ACTION**

Select Committee on Veterans' Affairs

Joint Favorable Substitute Change of Reference

Yea 13    Nay 0

Public Health Committee

Joint Favorable Report

Yea 26    Nay 0