



General Assembly

Substitute Bill No. 1245

January Session, 2005

* SB01245VA_PH_031105 *

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
43 Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to military and
44 veterans' affairs shall serve as administrative staff of the task force.

45 (f) Not later than January 31, 2006, the task force shall submit a
46 report on its findings and recommendations to the select committee of
47 the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to
48 military and veterans' affairs, in accordance with the provisions of
49 section 11-4a of the general statutes. The task force shall terminate on

50 the date that it submits such report or January 31, 2006, whichever is
51 earlier.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	New section

Statement of Legislative Commissioners:

The designation of the chairpersons of the task force was moved from subsection (b)(1) to subsection (d) for clarity; in subsections (a)(1), (a)(2) and (b)(4) references to "other hazardous materials" were added for internal consistency; and in subsection (b)(4) and (b)(5) "of such select committee" was added for accuracy of reference.

VA

Joint Favorable Subst. C/R

PH