

THE AMERICAN LEGION, DEPARTMENT OF MICHIGAN

RESOLUTION: #24-13

SUBMITTED BY: 8th District

SUBJECT: Request Reintroduction to the Polyfluoroalkyl Substances "PFAS ACT"

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, House Bill 2467, the PFAS Act, was introduced in Congress by Michigan Representative Dan Kildee in 2021; and

WHEREAS, The Bill passed the House but died for lack of action in the Senate; and

WHEREAS, In order to be considered again, legislation must be reintroduced in the House and the Senate; and

WHEREAS, The Veterans PFAS Act, Senate Bill 3851, which would have furnished hospital care and medical services to veterans and dependents who were stationed at military installations at which those veterans and dependents were exposed to perfluorooctanoic acid or other perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances, to provide for a presumption of service connection for certain veterans who were stationed at military installations at which those veterans were exposed to such substances, and for other purposes; and

WHEREAS, PFAS are widely used, long lasting chemicals; components of which break down very slowly over time; and

WHEREAS, Because of their widespread use and their persistence in the environment, many PFAS are found in the blood of people and animals all over the world and are present at low levels in a variety of food products and in the environment; and

WHEREAS, PFAS are found in water, air, fish and soil at locations across the nation and the globe; and

WHEREAS, Scientific studies have shown that exposure to some PFAS in the environment may be linked to harmful health effects in humans and animals; and

WHEREAS, Millions of veterans have been exposed to PFAS on bases, in water, on board ships and aircraft and in the drinking water; and

WHEREAS, The American Legion cannot stress enough the urgency in introducing and moving this legislation forward because of the serious health conditions of some veterans that are in dire need of assistance; and

WHEREAS, Legislation would require the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency to designate per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances as hazardous substances under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980; and

WHEREAS, In the past, the previous legislation was supported by Veteran Service Organizations; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, By The American Legion, Department of Michigan, in annual Department Winter Meeting, assembled in Flint, Michigan, February 10-11, 2024, that The American Legion, Department of Michigan urge Congress to reintroduce and pass this legislation; and, be it

FINALLY RESOLVED, That this resolution be forwarded to the National Organization for further consideration.

APPROVED AS AMENDED

APPROVED _____ REJECTED _____ REFERRED TO _____ APPROVED w/AMEND X