

RESOLUTION OF THE
NAABIK'ÍYÁTI' STANDING COMMITTEE
24th NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL -- Second Year, 2020

AN ACTION RELATING TO THE HEALTH, EDUCATION AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE, AND THE NAABIK'ÍYÁTI' COMMITTEE; SUPPORTING UNITED STATES SENATE BILL S. 3444 TITLED "FAIR CARE FOR VIETNAM VETERAN'S ACT OF 2020."

WHEREAS:

- A. The Navajo Nation established the Naabik'íyáti' Committee as a Navajo Nation Council standing committee and as such empowered the Naabik'íyáti' Committee to coordinate all request for information, appearances and testimony relating to proposed country, state and federal legislation impacting the Navajo Nation. See 2 N.N.C. §§ 700 (A), 701 (A) (6) and also CO-45-12.
- B. The Health, Education and Human Services Committee is a standing committee of the Navajo Nation Council empowered to represent that Navajo Nation at local, state and federal levels in other actions affecting health, environmental health, social services, education, veteran's services, employment, training and labor. See 2 N.N.C. §401 (B) (7).
- C. The Navajo Nation has a government-to-government relationship with the United States of America, Treaty of 1868, Aug. 12, 1868, 15 Stat. 667.
- D. On March 11, 2020 U.S. Senator Jon Tester (D-MT) introduced the "Fair Care For Vietnam Veteran's Act of 2020" 116th Congress. See S. 3444 attached as **Exhibit A**.
- E. The Fair Care For Vietnam Veteran's Act of 2020 was introduced to "expand the list of diseases associated with exposure to certain herbicide agents for which there is a presumption of service connection for veterans who served in the Republic of Vietnam, and for other purposes."
- F. This bill provides a presumption of service-connection for Parkinson's disease, bladder cancer, hypertension, and hypothyroidism for veterans exposed to certain herbicide agents while serving in Vietnam. Under a presumption of service-connection, specific conditions diagnosed in certain veterans are presumed to have been caused by the circumstances

of their military service. Health care benefits and disability compensation may then be awarded.


- G. It is in the best interest of the Navajo Nation to support S. 3444, so that Navajo veterans who served in Vietnam and are experiencing the adverse health effects mentioned above can be eligible for federal health care benefits and disability compensation.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

- A. The Navajo Nation hereby supports U.S. Senate Bill 3444 titled "Fair Care For Vietnam Veterans Act of 2020" attached hereto as **Exhibit A**.
- B. The Navajo Nation hereby authorizes the Speaker of the Navajo Nation Council, President of the Navajo Nation, and their designees, to advocate the Navajo Nation's support of the Fair Care For Vietnam Veterans Act of 2020.

CERTIFICATION

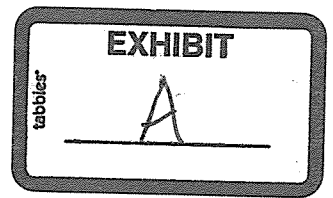
I, hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was duly considered by the Naabik'íyáti' Committee of the 24th Navajo Nation Council at a duly called meeting in Window Rock, Navajo Nation (Arizona), at which a quorum was present and that the same was passed by a vote of 22 in Favor, and 00 Opposed, on this 11th day of December 2020.


Honorable Seth Damon, Chairman
Naabik'íyáti' Committee

12/16/2020
Date

Motion: Honorable Pernell Halona
Second: Honorable Nathaniel Brown

Chairman Seth Damon not voting



116TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 3444

To amend title 38, United States Code, to expand the list of diseases associated with exposure to certain herbicide agents for which there is a presumption of service connection for veterans who served in the Republic of Vietnam, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MARCH 11, 2020

Mr. TESTER (for himself, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. BROWN, Mr. BENNET, Ms. WARREN, Mr. CASEY, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. MENENDEZ, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. UDALL, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. PETERS, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. HEINRICH, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. COONS, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. Kaine, Mr. REED, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. SCHATZ, Ms. ROSEN, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. WARNER, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. SMITH, Mr. LEAHY, Ms. HASSAN, Mrs. MURRAY, and Ms. HARRIS) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs

A BILL

To amend title 38, United States Code, to expand the list of diseases associated with exposure to certain herbicide agents for which there is a presumption of service connection for veterans who served in the Republic of Vietnam, 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. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “Fair Care for Vietnam
3 Veterans Act of 2020”.

4 **SEC. 2. ADDITIONAL DISEASES ASSOCIATED WITH EXPO-**
5 **SURE TO CERTAIN HERBICIDE AGENTS FOR**
6 **WHICH THERE IS A PRESUMPTION OF SERV-**
7 **ICE CONNECTION FOR VETERANS WHO**
8 **SERVED IN THE REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM.**

9 Section 1116(a)(2) of title 38, United States Code,
10 is amended by adding at the end the following new sub-
11 paragraphs:

12 “(I) Parkinsonism.

13 “(J) Bladder cancer.

14 “(K) Hypertension.

15 “(L) Hypothyroidism.”.

○

NAVAJO NATION

775

12/11/2020

Naa'bik'iyati' Committee Special Meeting

10:35:03 AM

Amd# to Amd#	Consent Agenda: Legislations	PASSED
MOT Halona, P	0288-20; 0291-20; 0293-20	
SEC Brown		

Yeas : 22

Nays : 0

Excused : 0

Not Voting : 1

Yea : 22

Begay, E	Daniels	Smith	Tso, O
Begay, K	Freeland, M	Stewart, W	Walker, T
Begay, P	Halona, P	Tso, C	Wauneka, E
Brown	James, V	Tso, D	Yazzie
Charles-Newton	Nez, R	Tso, E	Yellowhair
Crotty	Slater, C		

Nay : 0

Excused : 0

Not Voting : 1

Henio, J

Presiding Speaker: Damoh