

AMENDMENT NO. _____ Calendar No. _____

Purpose: In the nature of a substitute.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES—119th Cong., 1st Sess.

S. 201

To provide for a study by the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine on the prevalence and mortality of cancer among individuals who served as active duty aircrew in the Armed Forces, and for other purposes.

Referred to the Committee on _____ and
ordered to be printed

Ordered to lie on the table and to be printed

AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE intended
to be proposed by Mr. KELLY to the Committee Amendment *+ Sen. Cotton*

Viz:

1 Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the fol-
2 lowing:

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “ACES Act of 2025”.

5 **SEC. 2. NATIONAL ACADEMIES STUDY ON PREVALENCE**

6 **AND MORTALITY OF CANCER AMONG INDI-**

7 **VIDUALS WHO SERVED AS ACTIVE DUTY AIR-**

8 **CREW IN THE ARMED FORCES.**

9 (a) AGREEMENT.—

1 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 30 days after
2 the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary
3 of Veterans Affairs shall seek to enter into an agree-
4 ment with the National Academies of Sciences, En-
5 gineering, and Medicine (in this section referred to
6 as the “National Academies”), under which the Na-
7 tional Academies shall conduct a study on the preva-
8 lence and mortality of cancers among covered indi-
9 viduals.

10 (2) DEADLINE.—

11 (A) DATE.—The Secretary shall finalize
12 the agreement under paragraph (1) by not later
13 than 60 days after the date on which the Sec-
14 retary enters negotiations with the National
15 Academies with respect to such agreement.

16 (B) REPORT; BRIEFINGS.—If the Secretary
17 fails to satisfy the requirement under subpara-
18 graph (A), the Secretary shall—

19 (i) submit to the Committee on Vet-
20 erans’ Affairs of the Senate and the Com-
21 mittee on Veterans’ Affairs of the House
22 of Representatives a report that includes—

23 (I) an explanation of the reasons
24 the Secretary failed to satisfy such re-
25 quirement; and

3

1 (II) an estimate of the date on
2 which the Secretary will finalize the
3 agreement under paragraph (1); and
4 (ii) not less frequently than once every
5 60 days after the date on which the Sec-
6 retary failed to satisfy such requirement,
7 provide to the Committee on Veterans' Af-
8 fairs of the Senate and the Committee on
9 Veterans' Affairs of the House of Rep-
10 resentatives a briefing on the progress of
11 the Secretary toward finalizing such agree-
12 ment.

13 (b) STUDY.—The study required under subsection (a)
14 shall—

15 (1) identify exposures associated with military
16 occupations of covered individuals, including relating
17 to chemicals, compounds, agents, and other phe-
18 nomena;

19 (2) review the literature to determine associa-
20 tions between exposures referred to in paragraph (1)
21 and the incidence or prevalence of overall cancer
22 morbidity, overall cancer mortality, and increased in-
23 cidence or prevalence of—

24 (A) brain cancer;

25 (B) colon and rectal cancers;

4

- 1 (C) kidney cancer;
- 2 (D) lung cancer;
- 3 (E) melanoma skin cancer;
- 4 (F) non-Hodgkin lymphoma;
- 5 (G) pancreatic cancer;
- 6 (H) prostate cancer;
- 7 (I) testicular cancer;
- 8 (J) thyroid cancer;
- 9 (K) urinary bladder cancer; and
- 10 (L) other cancers as determined appro-
- 11 priate by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, in
- 12 consultation with the National Academies; and
- 13 (3) determine, to the extent possible, the preva-
- 14 lence of and mortality from the cancers specified in
- 15 paragraph (2) among covered individuals by using
- 16 available sources of data, which may include—
- 17 (A) health care and other administrative
- 18 databases of the Department of Veterans Af-
- 19 fairs, the Department of Defense, and the indi-
- 20 vidual Services, respectively;
- 21 (B) the national death index maintained by
- 22 the National Center for Health Statistics of the
- 23 Centers for Disease Control and Prevention;
- 24 and

1 (C) the study conducted under section 750
2 of the William M. (Mac) Thornberry National
3 Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2021
4 (Public Law 116–283; 134 Stat. 3716).

5 (c) REPORT.—At the conclusion of the study required
6 under subsection (a), the National Academies shall submit
7 to the Secretary, the Committee on Veterans’ Affairs of
8 the Senate, and the Committee on Veterans’ Affairs of the
9 House of Representatives a report containing the results
10 of the study described in subsection (b).

11 (d) COVERED INDIVIDUAL DEFINED.—In this sec-
12 tion, the term “covered individual” means an individual
13 who served on active duty in the Army, Navy, Air Force,
14 or Marine Corps as an aircrew member of a fixed-wing
15 aircraft, including as a pilot, navigator, weapons systems
16 operator, aircraft system operator, or any other crew
17 member who regularly flew in a fixed-wing aircraft.