

103^D CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

H. RES. 337

Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives with respect to radiation experiments conducted by the Federal Government.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 2, 1994

Mr. FROST (for himself and Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas) submitted the following resolution; which was referred jointly to the Committees on Government Operations, Energy and Commerce, and the Judiciary

RESOLUTION

Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives with respect to radiation experiments conducted by the Federal Government.

Whereas the Federal Government intentionally conducted secret radiation experiments on individuals beginning in the 1940's;

Whereas the experiments were conducted without the informed consent or knowledge of the individuals on whom the experiments were performed;

Whereas the radiation experiments included, but were not limited to, experiments involving injections of plutonium, prescription of radioactive medication to pregnant women, ingestion of irradiated food, and exposure to atmospheric radiation;

Whereas the Federal Government performed the experiments not in order to achieve medical or health benefits for the individuals who were subjects in the experiments, but for research purposes to allow Federal Government scientists and health specialists to study the effects of radiation on the human body;

Whereas, at the time of the experiments and in the years following the experiments, previous Federal administrations failed to inform the individuals used as subjects, or their families, about the nature and effects of the experiments;

Whereas the failure to inform such individuals and their families persisted even after a 1986 report, issued by the Subcommittee on Energy Conservation and Power of the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives, disclosed the existence of some of the experiments and recommended that individuals used as subjects in the experiments be identified, located, and provided with followup medical care; and

Whereas such experiments conducted on individuals without their consent or permission were wrong and unacceptable in a free and democratic society, and all reasonable steps should be taken to ensure that such experiments never happen again: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That it is the sense of the House of Rep-
2 resentatives that—

3 (1) the people of the United States deserve a
4 full accounting of the nature and extent of the radi-
5 ation experiments conducted by the Federal Govern-
6 ment;

1 (2) the Secretary of Energy should be com-
2 mended for quickly responding to the disclosures
3 that secret radiation experiments had been con-
4 ducted on individuals without their informed consent
5 by promising to locate and release all relevant
6 records;

7 (3) the President should be commended for es-
8 tablishing a Human Radiation Interagency Working
9 Group and an independent Advisory Committee on
10 Human Radiation Experiments to examine the sci-
11 entific and ethical questions raised by the experi-
12 ments and to make recommendations to the Presi-
13 dent;

14 (4) all departments and agencies of the Federal
15 Government should act expeditiously to locate, re-
16 trieve, and inventory all records and documents re-
17 lated to the radiation experiments;

18 (5) once located, retrieved, and inventoried, all
19 relevant records and documents should be made
20 available to the individuals who were used as sub-
21 jects in the experiments, and to their families, to
22 allow them to learn the truth about the experiments;

23 (6) the individuals who were subjects in the ex-
24 periments and are still alive should receive appro-
25 priate followup medical care;

1 (7) the President should consider whether com-
2 pensation should be provided to the individuals who
3 were the subjects of the experiments;

4 (8) the President should consider whether com-
5 pensation should be provided to the surviving family
6 members of deceased individuals who were subjects
7 of the experiments; and

8 (9) an apology should be made by the Federal
9 Government to the individuals who were subjects in
10 the experiments, and their families, for the hard-
11 ships they have endured as a result of the secret ra-
12 diation experiments.

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