

105TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 1524

To require the Secretary of Health and Human Services to conduct an ongoing study of the health consequences of nuclear weapons tests.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

NOVEMBER 12, 1997

Mr. HARKIN introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Labor and Human Resources

A BILL

To require the Secretary of Health and Human Services to conduct an ongoing study of the health consequences of nuclear weapons tests.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. ONGOING STUDY ON HEALTH CONSEQUENCES**
4 **OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS TESTS.**

5 (a) REQUIREMENT.—

6 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Health and
7 Human Services shall conduct an ongoing study of
8 the health consequences of nuclear weapons tests.

9 (2) COVERED TESTS.—In conducting the study,
10 the Secretary shall, to the maximum extent prac-

1 ticable, consider nuclear weapons tests (including
2 above ground tests and below ground tests) by the
3 United States, France, Great Britain, India, the
4 People's Republic of China, the Soviet Union and its
5 successor states, and any other foreign nation that
6 has conducted nuclear weapons tests.

7 (3) PARTICULAR EXPOSURES.—In conducting
8 the study, the Secretary shall consider, in particular,
9 the following:

10 (A) The health consequences of exposure
11 to plutonium, strontium-90, iodine-131, radio-
12 active cesium, and any other radioactive ele-
13 ment produced by a nuclear weapon test.

14 (B) The health consequences of exposure
15 to such elements for high-risk populations and
16 for the general population.

17 (4) REVIEW.—The Secretary shall provide on
18 an ongoing basis for guidance and review of the con-
19 duct of the study, and review of the results of the
20 study, by the Advisory Committee on Energy-Relat-
21 ed Epidemiologic Research of the Department of
22 Health and Human Services and by such other enti-
23 ties engaged in the review of governmental studies
24 relating to nuclear weapons activities as the Sec-
25 retary considers appropriate.

1 (b) REPORTS.—

2 (1) PRELIMINARY PLAN.—Not later than 90
3 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the
4 Secretary shall submit to Congress a report setting
5 forth the Secretary's plan for the conduct of the
6 study under this section. The report shall set forth
7 an estimate of the annual costs of the study.

8 (2) ANNUAL REPORTS.—Not later than one
9 year after the date of the submittal of the report
10 under paragraph (1), and annually thereafter, the
11 Secretary shall submit to Congress a report on the
12 results of the study during the one-year period pre-
13 ceding the date of the report.

14 (c) FUNDING.—The Secretary of Energy shall trans-
15 fer to the Secretary of Health and Human Services each
16 fiscal year, from amounts appropriated for the Depart-
17 ment of Energy for such fiscal year for weapons activities,
18 such amounts as the Secretary of Energy and the Sec-
19 retary of Health and Human Services jointly determine
20 appropriate to permit the Secretary of Health and Human
21 Services to conduct activities relating to the study under
22 this section during such fiscal year.

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