

RESOLUTION

Resolution No. 2312

Subject PACT Act Claims for Hypertension

Referred to Convention Resolutions Committee

WHEREAS, The Sergeant First Class Heath Robinson Honoring our Promise to Address Comprehensive Toxics (PACT) Act is the most significant expansion of benefits and services for toxic exposed veterans in more than 30 years, and

WHEREAS, The PACT Act will ensure veterans can receive high-quality health care screenings and services related to potential toxic exposures, the PACT Act expands access to VA health care services for veterans exposed during their military service, and

WHEREAS, The PACT Act codifies VA's new process for evaluating and determining presumption of exposure and service connection for various chronic conditions when the evidence of a military environmental exposure and the associated health risks are strong in the aggregate but hard to prove on an individual basis, and

WHEREAS, The PACT Act provides Vietnam Veterans and other Veterans exposed to tactical herbicides two additional Agent Orange presumptive conditions: Monoclonal gammopathy of undetermined significance (MGUS) and High blood pressure also called hypertension, and

WHEREAS, VA Claims being submitted for Vietnam veterans with hypertension are being awarded service-connected at 0%, and

WHEREAS, The rating schedule appears to not take into account the veterans medical history taking blood pressure medications for in some cases 40+ years, and

WHEREAS, The veteran, because of the time on medication, has no record of original blood pressure readings, and

WHEREAS, There is no way to determine what their current blood pressure would be because the veteran cannot stop their medications, and

WHEREAS, These veterans, if not on medications, would most definitely meet the higher rating schedules of 10, 20, 40, or even 60%, and

WHEREAS, The rating schedule should provide ratings based on levels of medications required to maintain a safe blood pressure, now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the American Legion urge the Department of Veterans Affairs to reevaluate the rating process for evaluating and determining service-connection for hypertension, and, be it finally

RESOLVED, That if approved by the Department of New York at its Convention in Westchester, New York, July 20th-22nd, 2023, This resolution be forwarded to the National Organization for consideration at the National Convention August 25th-31st, 2023, in Charlotte, North Carolina.

American Legion Department of New York

FOR CONVENTION COMMITTEE USE

Approved _____ Rejected _____

Approved with Amendments _____

Consolidated with _____

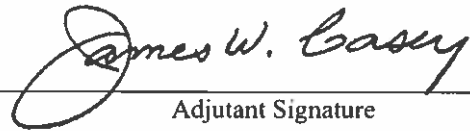
Referred to Standing Committee on

Veteran Services

Received and Recorded: July 20th, 2023

Other Action:

Signature: Frank J. Peters
(Chairman)



Adjutant Signature

Department Adjutant

Title

Below section to be completed when resolution
is submitted from another authorized source.

Frank J. Peters, Chairman

Name

Department Resolutions Committee

Title