

DRAFT

SUMMARY

Urges Congress to enact law to provide for treatment of veterans who participated in cleanup of Enewetak Atoll as radiation-exposed veterans for certain purposes.

JOINT MEMORIAL

To the President of the United States and the Senate and the House of Representatives of the United States of America, in Congress assembled:

We, your memorialists, the Eighty-first Legislative Assembly of the State of Oregon, in legislative session assembled, respectfully represent as follows:

Whereas the testing of nuclear weapons by the United States resulted in severe contamination of certain geographical sites in the Marshall Islands; and

Whereas thousands of individuals serving in the United States military between 1977 and 1980 participated in cleanup and decontamination efforts at such sites; and

Whereas these individuals, in the course of their military service, lived, breathed, ate, worked, slept and swam in decades of accumulated radioactive fallout; and

Whereas numerous individuals in this cohort have since developed distinct cancers and disease processes attributable to exposure to radioactive materials; now, therefore,

Be It Resolved by the Legislative Assembly of the State of Oregon:

That we, the members of the Eighty-first Legislative Assembly, urge the Congress of the United States of America to enact law, such as the Mark

1 Takai Atomic Veterans Healthcare Parity Act (H.R. 1377, 116th Cong.), to
2 provide for the treatment of veterans who participated in the cleanup of
3 Enewetak Atoll as radiation-exposed veterans for purposes of the
4 presumption of service-connection of certain disabilities by the Secretary of
5 Veterans Affairs; and be it further

6 Resolved, That a copy of this memorial shall be sent to the President of
7 the United States, to the Senate Majority Leader, to the Speaker of the
8 House of Representatives and to each member of the Oregon Congressional
9 Delegation.

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