

118TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 3237

AN ACT

To amend the Camp Lejeune Justice Act of 2022 to ensure claimants are adequately informed regarding filing a Federal cause of action.

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

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “Patriot Bill of Rights”.

3 **SEC. 2. INFORMATION REGARDING VETERANS’ BENEFITS**
 4 **TO VETERANS BRINGING FEDERAL CAUSE OF**
 5 **ACTION RELATING TO WATER AT CAMP**
 6 **LEJEUNE, NORTH CAROLINA.**

7 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Camp Lejeune Justice Act
 8 of 2022 (28 U.S.C. 2671 note prec.) is amended by adding
 9 at the end the following:

10 “(k) ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.—

11 “(1) GUIDANCE AND ADVICE SERVICES.—A vet-
 12 eran, or the legal representative of a veteran, bring-
 13 ing a cause of action under subsection (b) shall sign
 14 a written acknowledgment, provided by the attorney,
 15 indicating that the veteran or legal representative
 16 bringing the action understands that the veteran or
 17 legal representative may seek guidance and advice
 18 on any disability awards, payments, or benefits, in
 19 addition to and separate from rights provided under
 20 this Act, to which the veteran may be entitled under
 21 any program of the Department of Veterans Affairs,
 22 free of charge from—

23 “(A) organizations recognized under sec-
 24 tion 5902 of title 38, United States Code;

25 “(B) the Secretary of Veterans Affairs;
 26 and

1 “(C) the congressional representatives of
2 the individual or legal representative.

3 “(2) APPLICATION TO PENDING MATTERS.—
4 For any cause of action brought under subsection
5 (b) that is pending on the date of enactment of this
6 subsection, not later than 90 days after such date of
7 enactment, the veteran bringing the action, the legal
8 representative of the veteran, or the attorney for the
9 veteran or legal representative, as applicable, shall
10 file the acknowledgments described in paragraph
11 (1).”.

12 (b) SEVERABILITY.—If any provision of the amend-
13 ment made by subsection (a), or the application of such
14 a provision to any person or circumstance, is held to be
15 unconstitutional, the remaining provisions of the amend-
16 ment made by subsection (a), the other provisions of the
17 Camp Lejeune Justice Act of 2022 (28 U.S.C. 2671 note
18 prec.), and the application of the provision of the amend-
19 ment made by subsection (a) held to be unconstitutional

- 1 to any other person or circumstance shall not be affected
- 2 thereby.

Passed the Senate June 4, 2024.

Attest:

Secretary.

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