

116TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 555

To amend title 38, United States Code, to provide for the treatment of veterans who participated in the cleanup of Enewetak Atoll as radiation-exposed veterans for purposes of the presumption of service-connection of certain disabilities by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

FEBRUARY 26, 2019

Ms. SMITH (for herself, Mr. TILLIS, Ms. WARREN, Mr. MERKLEY, Ms. COLLINS, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. LEAHY, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. TESTER, Mr. COONS, Ms. HARRIS, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. MARKEY, and Mr. KING) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs

A BILL

To amend title 38, United States Code, to provide for the treatment of veterans who participated in the cleanup of Enewetak Atoll as radiation-exposed veterans for purposes of the presumption of service-connection of certain disabilities by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes.

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 “Mark Takai Atomic
3 Veterans Healthcare Parity Act of 2019”.

4 **SEC. 2. TREATMENT OF VETERANS WHO PARTICIPATED IN**
5 **CLEANUP OF ENEWETAK ATOLL AS RADI-**
6 **ATION-EXPOSED VETERANS FOR PURPOSES**
7 **OF PRESUMPTION OF SERVICE-CONNECTION**
8 **OF CERTAIN DISABILITIES BY DEPARTMENT**
9 **OF VETERANS AFFAIRS.**

10 Section 1112(c)(3)(B) of title 38, United States
11 Code, is amended by adding at the end the following new
12 clause:

13 “(v) Cleanup of Enewetak Atoll during the
14 period beginning on January 1, 1977, and end-
15 ing on December 31, 1980.”.

○