



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
June 6, 2022

Washington, D.C. – The Special Operations Association of America is proud to be joined by over twenty fellow veteran organizations of the Toxic Exposures in the American Military coalition and Moral Compass Federation in support of the historic, bipartisan legislation of Senator Tester and Senator Moran: the *Sergeant First Class Heath Robinson Honoring Our PACT Act of 2022*.

We whole-heartedly support and call on all U.S. Senators to pass this landmark legislation that will take care of generations of veterans and their families who were exposed to dangerous toxins. The *Sergeant First Class Heath Robinson Honoring Our PACT Act of 2022* is comprehensive in nature, addressing multiple problems caused by and contributing to toxic exposure. It expands eligibility for health care for veterans and families suffering from toxic exposure; creates a much-needed framework for establishing presumptive service connection; increases resources for those exposed to toxins; addresses an anomaly in North Carolina law that is preventing Camp Lejeune victims from seeking justice; and, expands research on toxic exposures in the Uniformed Services.

Sen. Jon Tester (D-Mont.):

“As Chairman of the Senate Veterans’ Affairs Committee, I take my cues directly from veterans and our VSO partners. As a result of their input and our joint efforts, Congress is closer than ever to delivering on its long-overdue promise to care for toxic-exposed veterans across this country through the bipartisan *Sergeant First Class Heath Robinson Honoring Our PACT Act*. This is the most comprehensive toxic exposure package Congress has delivered in this country’s history, and I’m committed to keeping up the fight alongside Ranking Member Moran until we get this bill to the President’s desk and better address the true cost of war.”

Sen. Jerry Moran (Kan.):

“The *Sergeant First Class Heath Robinson Honoring Our PACT Act* was shaped by the input of veteran service organizations, which represent and advocate for veterans in Kansas and across the country. I have heard from veterans back home and VSO leadership in Washington, D.C. on how best to care for veterans suffering from toxic exposure. I appreciate the support from our veteran service organizations and will continue working with Sen. Tester to get this historic legislation across the finish line to provide comprehensive health care and benefits to all generations of veterans.”

Sen. Marco Rubio (Fl.):

“When men and women volunteer to serve our nation, to put their lives on the line, they expect the government will be there for them. Far too often that hasn’t been the case. Some gave their lives on the battlefield, others died from debilitating diseases when they came back home. For them, this bill comes too late. But for others, it will provide the care they desperately need and selflessly earned. We will never be able to repay them and their families for their sacrifice, but we can -- and we must -- take care of them now.”

Sen. John Boozman (Ar.):

“Our commitment to the men and women who have worn their nation’s uniform is sacred. The *PACT Act* helps fulfill it by ensuring veterans exposed to burn pits and other toxins as a result of their service get the care and benefits they have earned. I’m pleased the Senate is taking this important step to eliminate challenges veterans experience in getting the support and medical attention they deserve.”



Read our letter of support here, which was signed by the following veteran organizations: Aces and Eights, Dixon Center for Military and Veterans Services, Flanders Fields, G02 Foundation for Lung Cancer, The Independence Fund, The Lifeline Foundation, Military Order of the Purple Heart, Military Veterans Advocacy, National Association of County Veterans Service Officers, Operation Freedom Birds, Operation Pineapple, Operation Sacred Promise, Operation Recovery, Operation 620, Red River Valley Association, Reserve Organization of America, Save Our Allies, Task Force Argo, Task Force Diablo, Task Force Hawk, Task Force North Star, and Veteran Warriors.