

**SOAA endorses *Ensuring Justice for Camp Lejeune Veterans*
Act to deliver justice to veterans and families now**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Washington, D.C. – The Special Operation Association of America is in proud support of the *Ensuring Justice for Camp Lejeune Victims Act*, introduced by Senators Thom Tillis (R-NC) and Richard Blumenthal (D-CT). A House bill is expected to be introduced soon as well.

The updates to the 2022 *Camp Lejeune Justice Act* are crucial and will allow veterans and civilians recover compensation for illnesses and injuries related to contaminated water exposure at Camp Lejeune in North Carolina. Between August 1, 1953 and December 31, 1987, thousands of Servicemembers, their families, and civilian workers were exposed to harmful chemicals in this water at levels 240 to 3,400 times above safety standards. This has been shown to cause increased health condition risks from the exposure, like rare cancers, Parkinson’s disease, adverse birth outcomes in the children of those impacted, and more.

Despite its assistance for Camp Lejeune veterans and families, the original CLJA faced sudden and unpredicted challenges when enacted. This new legislation corrects those challenges by clarifying each applicant’s right to jury trials and determining clear attorney fees in line with Department of Justice standards. This jurisdiction also works to alleviate the influx of more than 100,000 Veterans’ unanswered claims and provide them and their families the relief they so desperately need.

Representing not only our members but all the veterans who are fighting for answers from toxic water exposure at Camp Lejeune, the Special Operations Association of America endorses the *Ensuring Justice for Camp Lejeune Victims Act*.

We strongly urge Congress to pass this essential legislation, now, without further delay. Many of those exposed to water are critically ill. Many are terminally ill, and many have died waiting for justice. Camp Lejeune veterans and families are unable to wait any longer. Congress must deliver justice now.

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