

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. _____

To amend the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 to provide public safety officer benefits for exposure-related cancers, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

Ms. KLOBUCHAR (for herself and Mr. CRAMER) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on

A BILL

To amend the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 to provide public safety officer benefits for exposure-related cancers, 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,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Honoring Our Fallen
5 Heroes Act of 2025”.

6 **SEC. 2. HONORING OUR FALLEN HEROES.**

7 (a) CANCER-RELATED DEATHS AND DISABILITIES.—

8 (1) IN GENERAL.—Section 1201 of title I of the
9 Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of

1 1968 (34 U.S.C. 10281) is amended by adding at
2 the end the following:

3 “(p) EXPOSURE-RELATED CANCERS.—

4 “(1) DEFINITIONS.—In this subsection:

5 “(A) CARCINOGEN.—The term ‘carcinogen’
6 means an agent that is—

7 “(i) classified by the International
8 Agency for Research on Cancer under
9 Group 1 or Group 2A; and

10 “(ii) reasonably linked to an exposure-
11 related cancer.

12 “(B) DIRECTOR.—The term ‘Director’
13 means the Director of the Bureau.

14 “(C) EXPOSURE-RELATED CANCER.—As
15 updated from time to time in accordance with
16 paragraph (3), the term ‘exposure-related can-
17 cer’ means—

18 “(i) bladder cancer;

19 “(ii) brain cancer;

20 “(iii) breast cancer;

21 “(iv) cervical cancer;

22 “(v) colon cancer;

23 “(vi) colorectal cancer;

24 “(vii) esophageal cancer;

25 “(viii) kidney cancer;

- 1 “(ix) leukemia;
- 2 “(x) lung cancer;
- 3 “(xi) malignant melanoma;
- 4 “(xii) mesothelioma;
- 5 “(xiii) multiple myeloma;
- 6 “(xiv) non-Hodgkins lymphoma;
- 7 “(xv) ovarian cancer;
- 8 “(xvi) prostate cancer;
- 9 “(xvii) skin cancer;
- 10 “(xviii) stomach cancer;
- 11 “(xix) testicular cancer;
- 12 “(xx) thyroid cancer;
- 13 “(xxi) any form of cancer that is con-
- 14 sidered a WTC-related health condition
- 15 under section 3312(a) of the Public Health
- 16 Service Act (42 U.S.C. 300mm–22(a));
- 17 and
- 18 “(xxii) any form of cancer added to
- 19 this definition pursuant to an update in ac-
- 20 cordance with paragraph (3).

21 “(2) PERSONAL INJURY SUSTAINED IN THE

22 LINE OF DUTY.—

23 “(A) IN GENERAL.—Subject to subpara-

24 graph (B), as determined by the Bureau, the

25 exposure of a public safety officer to a car-

1 cinogen shall be presumed to constitute a per-
2 sonal injury within the meaning of subsection
3 (a) or (b) sustained in the line of duty by the
4 officer and directly and proximately resulting in
5 death or permanent and total disability, if—

6 “(i) the exposure occurred while the
7 public safety officer was engaged in line of
8 duty action or activity;

9 “(ii) the public safety officer began
10 serving as a public safety officer not fewer
11 than 5 years before the date of the diag-
12 nosis of the public safety officer with an
13 exposure-related cancer;

14 “(iii) the public safety officer was di-
15 agnosed with the exposure-related cancer
16 not more than 15 years after the public
17 safety officer’s last date of active service as
18 a public safety officer; and

19 “(iv) the exposure-related cancer di-
20 rectly and proximately results in the death
21 or permanent and total disability of the
22 public safety officer.

23 “(B) EXCEPTION.—The presumption
24 under subparagraph (A) shall not apply if com-
25 petent medical evidence establishes that the ex-

1 cancer that is the subject of the update
2 from engagement in their public safety ac-
3 tivities.

4 “(ii) EVIDENCE.—The competent
5 medical evidence described in clause (i)
6 may include recommendations, risk assess-
7 ments, and scientific studies by—

8 “(I) the National Institute for
9 Occupational Safety and Health;

10 “(II) the National Toxicology
11 Program;

12 “(III) the National Academies of
13 Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine;

14 or

15 “(IV) the International Agency
16 for Research on Cancer.

17 “(C) PETITIONS TO ADD TO THE LIST OF
18 EXPOSURE-RELATED CANCERS.—

19 “(i) IN GENERAL.—Any person may
20 petition the Director to add a form of can-
21 cer to the definition of ‘exposure-related
22 cancer’ under paragraph (1).

23 “(ii) CONTENT OF PETITION.—A peti-
24 tion under clause (i) shall provide informa-
25 tion to show that there is sufficient com-

1 petent medical evidence of significant risk
2 to public safety officers of developing the
3 cancer from engagement in their public
4 safety activities.

5 “(iii) TIMELY AND SUBSTANTIVE DE-
6 CISIONS.—

7 “(I) REFERRAL.—Not later than
8 180 days after receipt of a petition
9 satisfying clause (ii), the Director
10 shall refer the petition to appropriate
11 medical experts for review, analysis
12 (including risk assessment and sci-
13 entific study), and recommendation.

14 “(II) CONSIDERATION.—The Di-
15 rector shall consider each rec-
16 ommendation under subclause (I) and
17 promptly take appropriate action in
18 connection with the recommendation
19 pursuant to subparagraph (B).

20 “(iv) NOTIFICATION TO CONGRESS.—
21 Not later than 30 days after taking any
22 substantive action in connection with a rec-
23 ommendation under clause (iii)(II), the Di-
24 rector shall notify the Committee on the
25 Judiciary of the Senate and the Committee

1 on the Judiciary of the House of Rep-
2 representatives of the substantive action.”.

3 (2) APPLICABILITY.—The amendment made by
4 paragraph (1) shall apply to any claim under—

5 (A) section 1201(a) of title I of the Omni-
6 bus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of
7 1968 (34 U.S.C. 10281(a)) that is predicated
8 upon the death of a public safety officer on or
9 after January 1, 2020, that is the direct and
10 proximate result of an exposure-related cancer;
11 or

12 (B) section 1201(b) of title I of the Omni-
13 bus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of
14 1968 (34 U.S.C. 10281(b)) that is filed on or
15 after January 1, 2020, and predicated upon a
16 disability that is the direct and proximate result
17 of an exposure-related cancer.

18 (3) TIME FOR FILING CLAIM.—Notwithstanding
19 any other provision of law, an individual who desires
20 to file a claim that is predicated upon the amend-
21 ment made by paragraph (1) shall not be precluded
22 from filing such a claim within 3 years of the date
23 of enactment of this Act.

24 (b) CONFIDENTIALITY OF INFORMATION.—

1 (1) IN GENERAL.—Section 812(a) of title I of
2 the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of
3 1968 (34 U.S.C. 10231(a)) is amended—

4 (A) in the first sentence, by striking “fur-
5 nished under this title by any person and iden-
6 tifiable to any specific private person” and in-
7 serting “furnished under any law to any compo-
8 nent of the Office of Justice Programs, or fur-
9 nished otherwise under this title, by any entity
10 or person, including any information identifi-
11 able to any specific private person,”; and

12 (B) in the second sentence, by striking
13 “person furnishing such information” and in-
14 serting “entity or person furnishing such infor-
15 mation or to whom such information pertains”.

16 (2) EFFECTIVE DATE; APPLICABILITY.—The
17 amendments made by paragraph (1) shall—

18 (A) shall take effect for all purposes as if
19 enacted on December 27, 1979; and

20 (B) apply to any matter pending, before
21 the Department of Justice or otherwise, as of
22 the date of enactment of this Act.

23 (c) TECHNICAL AMENDMENTS.—

1 (1) IN GENERAL.—Section 1201(o)(2) of title I
2 of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act
3 of 1968 (34 U.S.C. 10281(o)(2)) is amended—

4 (A) in subparagraph (A), by inserting “or
5 (b)” after “subsection (a)”;

6 (B) in subparagraph (B), by inserting “or
7 (b)” after “subsection (a)”; and

8 (C) in subparagraph (C), by inserting “or
9 (b)” after “subsection (a)”.

10 (2) APPLICABILITY.—The amendments made
11 by paragraph (1) shall apply to any matter pending
12 before the Department of Justice as of the date of
13 enactment of this Act.

14 **SEC. 3. TECHNICAL AMENDMENTS.**

15 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 3 of the Safeguarding
16 America’s First Responders Act of 2020 (34 U.S.C.
17 10281 note) is amended by adding at the end the fol-
18 lowing:

19 “(d) DEFINITION.—In this section, the term ‘line of
20 duty action’ includes any action—

21 “(1) in which a public safety officer engaged at
22 the direction of the agency served by the public safe-
23 ty officer; or

24 “(2) the public safety officer is authorized or
25 obligated to perform.”.

1 (b) APPLICABILITY.—

2 (1) IN GENERAL.—The amendment made by
3 subsection (a) shall apply to any claim under section
4 3 of the Safeguarding America’s First Responders
5 Act of 2020 (34 U.S.C. 10281 note)—

6 (A) that is predicated upon the death of a
7 public safety officer on or after January 1,
8 2020; or

9 (B) that is—

10 (i) predicated upon the disability of a
11 public safety officer; and

12 (ii) filed on or after January 1, 2020.

13 (2) TIME FOR FILING CLAIM.—Notwithstanding
14 any other provision of law, an individual who desires
15 to file a claim that is predicated upon the amend-
16 ment made by subsection (a) shall not be precluded
17 from filing such a claim within 3 years of the date
18 of enactment of this Act.