118TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION
H. R. 2852

To require the Secretary of Defense to provide to firefighters of the Department of Defense medical testing and related services to detect and prevent certain cancers.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 25, 2023

Ms. SLOTKIN (for herself and Mr. BACON) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Armed Services

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A BILL

To require the Secretary of Defense to provide to firefighters of the Department of Defense medical testing and related services to detect and prevent certain cancers.

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 "Federal Firefighter

5 Cancer Detection and Prevention Act of 2023".

1 **SEC. 2. MEDICAL TESTING AND RELATED SERVICES FOR**

2 **FIREFIGHTERS OF DEPARTMENT OF DE-**

3 **FENSE.**

4 (a) PROVISION OF SERVICES.—During the annual

5 periodic health assessment of each firefighter of the De-

6 partment of Defense, or at such other intervals as may

7 be indicated in this subsection, the Secretary shall provide

8 to the firefighter (at no cost to the firefighter) appropriate

9 medical testing and related services to detect, document

10 the presence or absence of, and prevent, certain cancers.

11 Such services shall meet, at a minimum, the following cri-

12 teria:

13 (1) BREAST CANCER.—With respect to the

14 breast cancer screening, if the firefighter is a female

15 firefighter—

16 (A) such services shall include the provi-

17 sion of a mammogram to the firefighter—

18 (i) on at least a biannual basis if the

19 firefighter is 40 years old to 49 years old

20 (inclusive);

21 (ii) on at least an annual basis if the

22 firefighter is at least 50 years old; and

23 (iii) as clinically indicated (without re-

24 gard to age); and

25 (B) in connection with such provision, a li-

26 censed radiologist shall review the most recent

1 mammogram provided to the firefighter, as

2 compared to prior mammograms so provided,

3 and provide to the firefighter the results of such

4 review.

5 (2) COLON CANCER.—With respect to colon

6 cancer screening—

7 (A) if the firefighter is at least 40 years

8 old, and as otherwise clinically indicated, such

9 services shall include the communication to the

10 firefighter of the risks and benefits of stool-

11 based blood testing;

12 (B) if the firefighter is at least 45 years

13 old, and as clinically indicated (without regard

14 to age), such services shall include the provi-

15 sion, at regular intervals, of visual examinations

16 (such as a colonoscopy, CT colonoscopy, or

17 flexible sigmoidoscopy) or stool-based blood

18 testing; and

19 (C) in connection with such provision, a li-

20 censed physician shall review and provide to the

21 firefighter the results of such examination or

22 testing, as the case may be.

23 (3) PROSTATE CANCER.—With respect to pros-

24 tate cancer screening, if the firefighter is a male

25 firefighter, the communication to the firefighter of

1   the risks and benefits of prostate cancer screenings

2   and the provision to the firefighter of a prostate-spe-

3   cific antigen test—

4   (A) on an annual basis, if the firefighter is

5   at least 50 years old;

6   (B) on an annual basis, if the firefighter is

7   at least 40 years old and is a high-risk indi-

8   vidual; and

9   (C) as clinically indicated (without regard

10   to age).

11   (4) OTHER CANCERS.—Such services shall in-

12   clude routine screenings for any other cancer the

13   risk or occurrence of which the Director of the Cen-

14   ters for Disease Control and Prevention has identi-

15   fied as higher among firefighters than among the

16   general public, the provision of which shall be car-

17   ried out during the annual periodic health assess-

18   ment of the firefighter.

19   (b) OPTIONAL NATURE.—A firefighter of the Depart-

20 ment of Defense may opt out of the receipt of a medical

21 testing or related service provided under subsection (a).

22   (c) USE OF CONSENSUS TECHNICAL STANDARDS.—

23 In providing medical testing and related services under

24 subsection (a), the Secretary shall use consensus technical

25 standards in accordance with section 12(d) of the National

Technology Transfer and Advancement Act of 1995 (15
U.S.C. 272 note).

(d) DOCUMENTATION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—In providing medical testing
and related services under subsection (a), the Sec-
retary—

(A) shall document the acceptance rates of
such tests offered and the rates of such tests
performed;

(B) shall document tests results, to iden-
tify trends in the rates of cancer occurrences
among firefighters; and

(C) may collect and maintain additional in-
formation from the recipients of such tests and
other services, to allow for appropriate scientific
analysis.

(2) PRIVACY.—In analyzing any information of
an individual documented, collected, or maintained
under paragraph (1), in addition to complying with
other applicable privacy laws, the Secretary shall en-
sure the name, and any other personally identifiable
information, of the individual is removed from such
information prior to the analysis.

(3) SHARING WITH CENTERS FOR DISEASE
CONTROL AND PREVENTION.—The Secretary may

1 share data from any tests performed under sub-
2 section (a) with the Director of the Centers for Dis-
3 ease Control and Prevention, as appropriate, to in-
4 crease the knowledge and understanding of cancer
5 occurrences among firefighters.

6 (e) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

7 (1) The term "firefighter" has the meaning
8 given that term in section 707 of the National De-
9 fense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2020 (Pub-
10 lic Law 116–92; 133 Stat. 1441; 10 U.S.C. 1074m
11 note).

12 (2) The term "high-risk individual" means an
13 individual who—

14 (A) is African American;

15 (B) has at least one first-degree relative
16 who has been diagnosed with prostate cancer at
17 an early age; or

18 (C) is otherwise determined by the Sec-
19 retary to be high risk with respect to prostate
20 cancer.

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