

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 1320

To direct the Secretary of Defense and the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to take certain steps regarding research related to menopause, perimenopause, or mid-life women’s health, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

APRIL 8, 2025

Mrs. MURRAY (for herself and Ms. ERNST) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Veterans’ Affairs

A BILL

To direct the Secretary of Defense and the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to take certain steps regarding research related to menopause, perimenopause, or mid-life women’s health, 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 “Servicewomen and Vet-
5 erans Menopause Research Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

7 In this Act:

1 (1) COVERED PROVIDER.—The term “covered
2 provider” means a health care provider employed by
3 the Department of Defense or the Department of
4 Veterans Affairs.

5 (2) MENOPAUSE.—The term “menopause”
6 means the stage of a woman’s life—

7 (A) when menstrual periods stop perma-
8 nently and she can no longer get pregnant; and

9 (B) that is not a disease state, but a nor-
10 mal part of aging for women.

11 (3) MID-LIFE.—The term “mid-life” means a
12 life stage that—

13 (A) coincides with the menopausal transi-
14 tion in women, which may be physical or emo-
15 tional;

16 (B) encompasses the late reproductive age,
17 which can begin at approximately 35 years of
18 age, to the late postmenopausal stages of repro-
19 ductive aging, which can extend to approxi-
20 mately 65 years of age; and

21 (C) often marks the onset of many chronic
22 diseases.

23 (4) PERIMENOPAUSE.—The term
24 “perimenopause” means the time during a woman’s
25 life when levels of the hormone estrogen fall un-

1 evenly in a woman's body and is also called the men-
 2 opausal transition.

3 (5) POSTMENOPAUSAL.—The term “post-
 4 menopausal” means the stage of a woman's life after
 5 a woman has been without a menstrual period for 12
 6 months that lasts for the rest of a woman's life and
 7 reflects a time when women are at increased risk for
 8 osteoporosis and heart disease.

9 **SEC. 3. EVALUATION OF CERTAIN RESEARCH RELATED TO**
 10 **MENOPAUSE, PERIMENOPAUSE, OR MID-LIFE**
 11 **WOMEN'S HEALTH.**

12 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Defense, in co-
 13 ordination with Secretary of Veterans Affairs, shall evalu-
 14 ate—

15 (1) the results of completed research related to
 16 menopause, perimenopause, or mid-life women's
 17 health among women who are members of the
 18 Armed Forces or veterans;

19 (2) the status of such research that is ongoing;

20 (3) any gaps in knowledge and research on—

21 (A) treatments for menopause-related
 22 symptoms, including hormone and non-hormone
 23 treatments;

24 (B) the safety and effectiveness of treat-
 25 ments for menopause-related symptoms;

1 (C) the relation of service in the Armed
2 Forces to perimenopause and menopause and
3 the impact of such service on perimenopause
4 and menopause;

5 (D) the effect of combat roles on symp-
6 toms relating to perimenopause and menopause,
7 including exposure to burn pits, toxic chemicals,
8 and perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl sub-
9 stances (commonly known as “PFAS”); and

10 (E) the impact of perimenopause and
11 menopause on the mental health of women who
12 are members of the Armed Forces or veterans;

13 (4) the availability of and uptake of professional
14 training resources for covered providers relating to
15 mid-life women’s health with respect to the care,
16 treatment, and management of perimenopause and
17 menopausal symptoms, and related support services;
18 and

19 (5) the availability of and uptake of treatments
20 for women who are members of the Armed Forces
21 or veterans who are experiencing perimenopause or
22 menopause.

23 (b) REPORT; STRATEGIC PLAN.—Not later than 180
24 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Sec-

1 retary of Defense and the Secretary of Veterans Affairs
2 shall each submit to Congress a report containing—

3 (1) the findings of the evaluation conducted
4 under subsection (a);

5 (2) recommendations for improving professional
6 training resources described in subsection (a)(4) for
7 covered providers; and

8 (3) a strategic plan that—

9 (A) resolves the gaps in knowledge and re-
10 search identified in the report; and

11 (B) identifies topics in need of further re-
12 search relating to potential treatments for
13 menopause-related symptoms of women who are
14 members of the Armed Forces or veterans.

15 (c) NONDUPLICATION AND SUPPLEMENTATION OF
16 EFFORTS.—In carrying out activities under this section,
17 the Secretary of Defense and the Secretary of Veterans
18 Affairs shall ensure that such activities minimize duplica-
19 tion and supplement, not supplant, existing information-
20 sharing efforts of the Department of Health and Human
21 Services.

1 **SEC. 4. SENSE OF CONGRESS ON ADDITIONAL RESEARCH**
2 **RELATED TO MENOPAUSE, PERIMENOPAUSE,**
3 **OR MID-LIFE WOMEN'S HEALTH.**

4 It is the sense of Congress that the Secretary of De-
5 fense and the Secretary of Veterans Affairs should each
6 conduct research related to menopause, perimenopause, or
7 mid-life health regarding women who are members of the
8 Armed Forces or veterans.

○