

**As Reported by the Senate State and Local Government
Committee**

**131st General Assembly
Regular Session
2015-2016**

Am. S. C. R. No. 11

Senator Uecker

**Cosponsors: Senators Gardner, Hughes, Eklund, Burke, Seitz, Hite, Tavares,
Brown, LaRose**

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To urge the United States Congress to pass and the 1
President to sign into law the Toxic Exposure Research 2
Act of 2015. 3

**BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF OHIO (THE HOUSE OF
REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING):**

WHEREAS, Millions have served our great nation in the Armed 4
Forces of the United States; and 5

WHEREAS, During their service many have been exposed to 6
toxins with unknown consequences; and 7

WHEREAS, Most of these veterans did not know, while in 8
service, that they were being exposed to harmful substances; and 9

WHEREAS, Many of these veterans suffer from the harmful 10
effects of toxic exposure; and 11

WHEREAS, Service members that have been exposed to agent 12
orange and its dioxin contaminates have reported a variety of 13
serious health problems and symptoms, including cancers and 14
birth defects in their descendants; and 15

WHEREAS, Many children and grandchildren of veterans have 16
structural and nonstructural birth defects; and 17

WHEREAS, The number of Vietnam veterans who have children 18
and grandchildren with birth defects related to exposure to 19
agent orange is significant; and 20

WHEREAS, The United States Department of Veterans Affairs 21
has accepted that certain of these defects may be the result of 22
a Vietnam veteran's exposure to harmful substances during 23
service; and 24

WHEREAS, Birth anomalies in the children of veterans are 25
not tracked independently of other birth defects, so may go 26
unreported, unexplained, and not researched; and 27

WHEREAS, State birth defect registries typically do not 28
report to a national birth defect registry; and 29

WHEREAS, The cause of a miscarriage or of a still birth is 30
seldom known or determined; and 31

WHEREAS, The United States Department of Veterans Affairs 32
and the Department of Defense, which have kept records of toxic 33
exposures and possible exposures, have not researched possible 34
effects of such exposures on the descendants of veterans; and 35

WHEREAS, S. 901 and H.B. 1769, currently pending in 36
Congress, and known as the Toxic Exposure Research Act of 2015, 37
would establish in the Department of Veterans Affairs a national 38
center for research on the diagnosis and treatment of health 39
conditions of the descendants of veterans exposed to toxic 40
substances during service in the Armed Forces that are related 41
to that exposure, and would establish an advisory board on such 42
health conditions; now therefore be it 43

RESOLVED, That the members of the 131st General Assembly of 44
the State of Ohio respectfully urge the United States Congress 45
to pass and the President to sign into law the Toxic Exposure 46
Research Act of 2015; and be it further 47

RESOLVED, That the Clerk of the Senate transmit duly	48
authenticated copies of this resolution to the President and	49
Vice-President of the United States, the Speaker and Clerk of	50
the United States House of Representatives, the President Pro	51
Tempore and the Secretary of the United States Senate, the	52
members of the Ohio Congressional delegation, and the news media	53
of Ohio.	54