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DOLE JEFFORDS CAMP LEJEUNE CONGRESSIONAL AMENDMENT APPROVAL  
REGARDING POTENTIAL EXPOSURE TO HIGHLY CONTAMINATED WATER WITH  
TRANSMITTAL MCB CAMP LEJEUNE NC  
6/22/2006  
AGENCY FOR TOXIC SUBSTANCE AND DISEASE REGISTRY

**Maslia, Morris (ATSDR/OA/OD)**

**From:** Jerome Ensminger [jmensminger@hotmail.com]  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 22, 2006 4:27 PM  
**To:** byron768@aol.com; Bove, Frank J. (ATSDR/OA/OD); mjroda@earthlink.net; dick.frandsen@mail.house.gov; mikegros455@hotmail.com; lhyland@p-and-r.com; Maslia, Morris (ATSDR/OA/OD); angels\_wing\_17201@yahoo.com; skippc@washpost.com; kidsdrs@ncfreedom.net; jay@gourley.org; dyerhome@bellsouth.net; andreab5112544@aol.com  
**Subject:** FW: Camp Lejeune legislative developments  
**Attachments:** Dole-JeffordsAmendment1.pdf; Dole-JeffordsAmendment2.pdf; JeffordsStatementCampLejeune6-16-06.pdf

Hello everyone, here are the amendments that Senator Dole included into the Defense Authorization Bill.

Jerry

From: "Woolf, Malcolm (EPW)" <Malcolm\_Woolf@epw.senate.gov>  
 To: "Jeff Byron (E-mail)" <byron768@aol.com>, "Jerry Ensminger (E-mail)" <jmensminger@hotmail.com>  
 Subject: *Camp Lejeune legislative developments*  
 Date: *Wed, 21 Jun 2006 17:48:41 -0400*

<<Dole- Jeffords Amendment 1.pdf>> <<Dole- Jeffords Amendment 2.pdf>> <<Jeffords Statement Camp Lejeune 6-16-06.pdf>>

As we discussed, here is a copy of the two amendments that Senator Dole and Jeffords filed on the DOD authorization bill. I've also attached Sen. Jeffords statement for the June 16, 2006, congressional record. As you will see from his statement, serious concerns were raised about the first amendment, which led to negotiations between staff for Dole, Jeffords, the Armed Services Committee and DOD. The result is the Dole-Jeffords second amendment. I don't have everyone's email address, so please distribute these documents to those who may be interested.

As Sen. Jeffords explained in his statement, we view this legislation as a significant step forward because (1) DOD will for the first time be forced to notify, via a media blitz, all those affected when the ATSDR study is complete, and (2) DOD will be forced to fund a study by the National Academy of Sciences, to be completed within 18 months of enactment, of whether the contamination is linked to adverse health affects for those exposed in utero, as children or as adults. The amendment was unanimously accepted into the DOD authorization bill yesterday as part of a larger package. The bill itself is expected to pass the Senate later this week.

**Maslia, Morris (ATSDR/OA/OD)**

**From:** Jerome Ensminger [jmensminger@hotmail.com]  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 22, 2006 8:05 PM  
**To:** Bove, Frank J. (ATSDR/OA/OD); dyerhome@bellsouth.net; mjroda@earthlink.net; dick.frandsen@mail.house.gov; jay@gourley.org; mikegros455@hotmail.com; lhyland@p-and-r.com; Maslia, Morris (ATSDR/OA/OD); skippc@washpost.com; kidsdrs@ncfreedom.net  
**Subject:** FW: Dole, Jeffords' Camp Lejeune Amendment Passes Senate in DOD Bill

From: "Woolf, Malcolm (EPW)" <Malcolm\_Woolf@epw.senate.gov>  
 To: "Jerry Ensminger (E-mail)" <jmensminger@hotmail.com>, "Jeff Byron (E-mail)" <byron768@aol.com>  
 Subject: FW: Dole, Jeffords' Camp Lejeune Amendment Passes Senate in DOD Bill  
 Date: Thu, 22 Jun 2006 18:23:23 -0400

Success! This provision was passed as part of the DOD bill adopted by the Senate today. Below is Jeffords press statement. Please pass it along to all who have worked so hard to get this issue the attention it deserves.

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Malcolm D. Woolf, Minority Counsel  
 Senator James M. Jeffords  
 Senate Environment & Public Works Committee  
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-----Original Message-----

**Subject:** Dole, Jeffords' Camp Lejeune Amendment Passes Senate in DOD Bill

**Contact: Diane Derby, 202-224-5141**  
**For Immediate Release**  
**Thursday, June 22, 2006**

**Dole, Jeffords' Camp Lejeune Amendment  
 Passes Senate in DOD Bill**

WASHINGTON, DC – An amendment to support military families who were potentially exposed to highly contaminated water at Camp Lejeune in North Carolina was approved today as part of the 2007 Defense Authorization Act, which passed the Senate 96-0. The amendment was authored by Senators Elizabeth Dole, R-N.C., and Jim Jeffords, I-Vt.

The amendment will help those exposed to contaminated drinking water at Camp Lejeune Marine base, which closed the contaminated wells in 1985. The U.S. Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR) has found that at least 100 babies exposed in utero to the contaminated drinking water at Camp Lejeune suffered birth defects and cancers, including spina bifida, leukemia and cleft palates.

The Dole-Jeffords amendment requires a comprehensive National Academy of Sciences study to be completed within

6/23/2006

18 months to evaluate the strength of the link between TCE and PCE exposure and adverse health impacts for pre-natal, childhood and adult exposures at Camp Lejeune. In 2004, Jeffords called for an investigation of the contamination, and for full notification of those affected.

The amendment also requires the Marine Corps to notify those potentially affected by the contamination so they can learn what happened, how it may have affected them, and what steps they may consider taking now to minimize the potential health impacts.

“I am hopeful that this study will provide the information these families need to answer questions that have lingered for far too long,” said Jeffords, the ranking member of the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee. “This is the minimum that our government should be doing to address the grievous failure on the part of the Marine Corps to adequately protect its service members and their families.”

*Elizabeth Dole* S.L.C.

AMENDMENT NO.

Calendar No.

Purpose: To require a National Academy of Sciences study on human exposure to contaminated drinking water at Camp Lejeune, North Carolina.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES—109th Cong., 2d Sess.

**S. 2766**

To authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2007 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe personnel strengths for such fiscal year for the Armed Forces, and for other purposes.

Referred to the Committee on \_\_\_\_\_ and  
ordered to be printed

Ordered to lie on the table and to be printed

AMENDMENT intended to be proposed by Mrs. DOLE (for herself and Mr. JEFFORDS)

Viz:

At the end of subtitle D of title III, add the following:

- 2 SEC. 352. NATIONAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCES STUDY ON
- 3 HUMAN EXPOSURE TO CONTAMINATED
- 4 DRINKING WATER AT CAMP LEJEUNE, NORTH
- 5 CAROLINA.
- 6 (a) STUDY REQUIRED.—

(1) **IN GENERAL.** Not later than 60 days after  
2 the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary  
3 of Navy shall enter into an agreement with the Na-  
4 tional Academy of Sciences to conduct a comprehen-  
5 sive review and evaluation of the available scientific  
6 and medical evidence regarding associations between  
7 pre-natal, child, and adult exposure to drinking  
8 water contaminated with trichloroethylene (TCE)  
9 and tetrachloroethylene (PCE) at Camp Lejeune,  
10 North Carolina, as well as other pre-natal, child, and  
11 adult exposures to levels of trichloroethylene and  
12 tetrachloroethylene similar to those experienced at  
13 Camp Lejeune, and birth defects or diseases and any  
14 other adverse health effects.

(2) **ELEMENTS.**—In conducting the review and  
5 evaluation, the Academy shall review and summarize  
6 the scientific and medical evidence and assess the  
7 strength of that evidence in establishing a link or as-  
8 sociation between exposure to trichloroethylene and  
9 tetrachloroethylene and each birth defect or disease  
10 suspected to be associated with such exposure. For  
11 each birth defect or disease reviewed, the Academy  
12 shall determine, to the extent practicable with avail-  
13 able scientific and medical data, whether—  
14

1 (A) a statistical association with such con-  
2 taminant exposures exists; and

3 (B) there exist plausible biological mecha-  
4 nisms or other evidence of a causal relationship  
5 between contaminant exposures and the  
6 defect or disease.

7 (3) **SCOPE OF REVIEW.**—In conducting the re-  
8 view and evaluation, the Academy shall include a re-  
9 view and evaluation of-

10 (A) the toxicologic and epidemiologic lit-  
11 erature on adverse health effects of trichloro-  
12 ethylene and tetrachloroethylene, including epi-  
13 demologic and risk assessment reports  
14 government agencies;

5 (B) recent literature reviews by the  
16 tional Research Council, Institute of Medicine,  
7 and other groups;

18 (C) the completed and on-going Agency for  
9 Toxic Substances Disease Registry (ATSDR)  
20 studies on potential trichloroethylene and  
21 tetrachloroethylene exposure at Camp Lejeune;  
22 and

23 (D) published meta-analyses

24 (4) **PEER REVIEW.** The Academy shall obtain  
25 the peer review of the report prepared as a result of

the review and evaluation under applicable Academy  
2 procedures.

3 (5) **SUBMITTAL**. The Academy shall submit  
4 the report prepared as a result of the review and  
5 evaluation to the Secretary and Congress not later  
6 than 18 months after entering into the agreement  
7 for the review and evaluation under paragraph (1  
8 (b) **NOTICE ON EXPOSURE**.

9 (1) **NOTICE REQUIRED**. Upon completion of  
10 the current epidemiological study by the Agency for  
Toxic Substances Disease Registry, known as the  
12 Exposure to Volatile Organic Compounds in Drink-  
13 ing Water and Specific Birth Defects and Childhood  
14 Cancers, United States Marine Corps Base Camp  
15 Lejeune North Carolina, the Commandant of the  
16 Marine Corps shall take appropriate actions, includ-  
17 ing the use of national media such as newspapers,  
18 television, and the Internet, to notify former Camp  
19 Lejeune residents and employees who may have been  
20 exposed to drinking water impacted by trichloro-  
21 ethylene and tetrachloroethylene of the results of the  
22 study.

23 (2) **ELEMENTS**. The information provided by  
24 the Commandant of the Marine Corps under para-  
25 graph (1) shall be prepared in conjunction with the

Agency for Toxic Substances Disease Registry and  
2 shall include a description of sources of additional  
3 information relating to such exposure, including, but  
4 not be limited to, the following:

5 (A) A description of the events resulting in  
6 exposure to contaminated drinking water at  
7 Camp Lejeune.

8 (B) A description of the duration and ex-  
9 tent of the contamination of drinking water at  
10 Camp Lejeune

11 (C) The known and suspected health ef-  
12 fects of exposure to the drinking water im-  
13 pacted by trichloroethylene  
14 tetrachloroethylene at Camp Lejeune.



Statement of Senator James M. Jeffords  
Regarding US Marine Corp Base Camp Lejeune Water Contamination  
June 16, 2006

The motto of the United States Marine Corps is Semper Fidelis. Translated, it means, "Always Faithful," but among members of the Marine Corps the motto holds a deeper meaning. Semper Fidelis represents our nation's shared commitment to those who dedicate their lives to protect us. As a Navy veteran, I know we must always honor the men and women of our armed forces, and their families for the sacrifices they make for our nation everyday.

Lately, I am afraid Congress has not fulfilled its commitment to our men and women in the military, and this is especially evident in the lack of support for our military veterans and their families. Our lack of assistance for those exposed to the highly contaminated drinking water at U.S. Marine Corps base Camp Lejeune in North Carolina is one of the best examples of this body's shortcomings.

Camp Lejeune is the site of one of the largest drinking water catastrophes in our nation's history. Between 1980 and 1985, Camp Lejeune drinking water samples conducted by the Marine Corps found high levels of volatile organic compounds used by the Marines in solvents for industrial degreasing. The contaminated wells were closed in 1985, however the contamination itself may date back until the late 1950s. To put the contamination in perspective, the current EPA health standard for these chemicals is 5 parts per billion. The tap water samples taken at homes and the elementary school between 1980 and 1985 reached levels as high as 1,400 parts per billion.

While the health effects of exposure to the contaminants at Camp Lejeune are still being studied, the U.S. Agency for Toxic Substances (ATSDR) has documented at least 100 babies exposed in utero to the contaminated drinking water at Camp Lejeune have birth defects and cancers, including spina bifida, leukemia and clef palates. This is at least twice the rate found in the general population.

For the last twenty years, the calls for assistance from those affected by this contamination have gone unanswered. The Department of Defense's cooperation has been slow, and the political will in Congress has been lacking. Today, I am offering a modest amendment to answer the call for help.

Senator Dole's amendment would do two things. First, it would provide veteran's health care benefits to those exposed in utero while at Camp Lejeune. The in utero exposures to Camp Lejeune's contaminated water happened under the Marine Corps watch, and it is our responsibility to assist those who were harmed. Medical assistance is a modest step to help restore faith among our veterans and their family members in the government's commitment to them.

Second, it requires the Marine Corps to notify those who may have been exposed to the water contamination upon the completion of the ATSDR's study on the human exposures

to drinking water. To date, the Marine Corps has issued targeted press releases, but information has not been sent to all who may have been exposed. The ATSDR's modeling of the contaminated water will make it possible to notify exposed segments of the Camp Lejeune population, without creating undue worry among the greater population that resided on base. This amendment will require the Marines to provide notice to those who may have been exposed, to outline the events leading to the exposures, to describe the potential adverse health effects, and to give the affected people resources they can use to obtain more information.

I would like to thank Senator Dole for her leadership on this issue. Without her, this tragic situation would not have gotten the attention it deserves.

Nevertheless, concerns have been raised about this amendment. The people exposed to the highly contaminated drinking water at Camp Lejeune have waited for decades for answers. Congress needs to take steps now and not delay for years debating this issue.

For this reason, I have worked with Senator Dole on a second, compromise Dole-Jeffords amendment. This amendment would require a comprehensive National Academy of Sciences study to be completed within eighteen months to evaluate the strength of the link between TCE and PCE exposure and adverse health impacts for pre-natal, childhood and adult exposures at Camp Lejeune.

It also requires the Navy to notify those potentially affected by the water contamination at Camp Lejeune so they can learn what happened, how it may have affected them, and what steps they may want to consider taking now to minimize the potential health impacts. While I am told by the Defense Department that individual notification by letter to each person affected is impractical, under this compromise amendment, the Navy would carry out a media blitz and place a letter on its web page providing the information that those affected deserve to have.

Again, I thank Senator Dole for taking a bipartisan approach to this issue and for pushing to make constructive progress. We have a moral responsibility to support our troops and their families, and any failure to do so, is a failure to fulfill our commitment embodied in the Marine's motto *Semper Fidelis*. I urge my colleagues to approve this compromise amendment.