

More information The Honoring America's Veterans and Caring for Camp Lejeune Families Act of 2012: The law provides health care to victims of three decades of water contamination at Marines Base Camp Lejeune, N.C. The water was poisoned by leaking underwater storage tanks and contaminated with benzene, vinyl chloride, trichloroethylene, tetrachloroethylene and other chemicals. Among the law's provisions: – Marine veterans and family members who lived or served at Lejeune for at least 30 days between 1957 and 1987 are eligible for health care coverage for the following illnesses connected to the contaminants: esophageal cancer, lung cancer, breast cancer, bladder cancer, kidney cancer, leukemia, multiple myeloma, myelodysplastic syndromes, renal toxicity, hepatic steatosis, female infertility, miscarriage, scleroderma, neurobehavioral effects and non-Hodgkin's lymphoma. – The so-called DeMint clause, insisted upon by Sen. Jim DeMint, R-S.C., allows the Department of Veterans Affairs to question individual applicants to prevent fraud, but the health benefits do not require patients to prove a connection between their diseases and the contaminated water, according to the office of Rep. Brad Miller, D-N.C. – Language in the law requires future appropriations to pay for family members' health care, though the VA has money for health care for the immediate future.