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December 6, 2021

The Honorable Jerrold Nadler
Chair
U.S. House Committee on the Judiciary
2138 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington D.C. 20515

The Honorable Jim Jordan
Ranking Member
U.S. House on the Judiciary
2138 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington D.C. 20515

Subject: H.R. 5338 Radiation Exposure Compensation Act Amendments 2021

Greetings Chairman Nadler, and Ranking Member Jordan

The Pacific Association for Radiation Survivors thank you for your support and commitment to insure that H.R. 5338 is passed in the House of Representatives and we pray that with this markup on H.R. 5338 it will move forward unanimously in a bipartisan vote.

The people of Guam were exposed to nuclear fallout from the Pacific Nuclear Testing in the Marshall Islands from 1946-1962 when 66 nuclear and hydrogen bombs were detonated. The people of Guam were not aware, nor had they consented to the years they were exposed to ionizing radiation such as Iodine 131, Strontium 90, and Cesium 137.

On July 10, 2000, Congress passed the Radiation Exposure Compensation Act Amendments (PL 106-245) and in September 2002, in response to a Congressional Mandate (PL 107-206), the Health Resource and Services Administration (HRSA) asked the National Research Council Board on Radiation Effects Research (BRER) to convene a committee. Under congressional mandate, HRSA charged the Committee to consider the issues and make recommendations regarding the three mandates, one of them being Item C, "Whether other groups of people or additional geographic areas should be covered under the Radiation Exposure Compensation Act (RECA) Program (2005 National Research Council)." In 2004, I was invited by Dr. Isaf Al Nabulsi Senior Director of the Board of Radiation Effects Research (BRER) Committee to present oral and written testimony in Washington D.C. at the National Academies of Science. I presented evidence and oral testimony before Dr. Preston, Dr. Evan Douple and other scientist on the BRER Committee. I also included sworn statements from Navy Lt. Bert Schreiber who was the Chemical, Biological, Radiological Officer on Guam in 1952 who testified that "the Geiger counters were off the scale" in November of 1952.

On October 31, 1952, the first thermonuclear device, with code name "Mike," was detonated. It had a total yield of 10.4 Mt. On November 3, 1952 radiation was detected in Guam. In 2005, National Research Council's final report was published titled "Assessment of the Scientific Information for the Radiation Exposure Screening and Education Program." On page 200 of the report, it stated "The committee initiated an independent assessment of the radiological consequences related to the weapons test in the Pacific to the people living on Guam." The report further stated its conclusions.

Conclusions. As a result of its analysis, the committee concludes that Guam did receive measurable fallout from atmospheric testing of nuclear weapons in the Pacific. Residents during that period should be eligible for compensation under RECA in a way similar to that of persons considered to be "downwinders."

Honorable Members, I write to you all not only for your support but for your approval for the Radiation Exposure Compensation Act Amendments of 2021 H.R. 5338. It is our hope that not only the people of Guam be included in RECA but everyone that has been affected by their exposure to radiation and uranium mining. We are deeply appreciative of your support and may God bless.

Sincerely,



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