



VETERANS OF THE VIETNAM WAR, INC. & THE VETERANS COALITION



International Headquarters
805 South Township Boulevard, Pittston, PA 18640
Phone: 570-603-9740 ~ ~ Fax: 570-603-9741
1-800-843-8626 ~ ~ E-mail: vnwnatl@epix.net
Websites: vnvw.org or theveteranscoalition.org
All Veterans – All Military Welcome

15th September 2014

SUPPORT OUR VETERANS

To: House Committee on Veterans Affairs
Chairman Jeff Miller

Subject: Support Blue Water Navy & HR 543

Dear Chairman Miller,

The Veterans of the Vietnam War, Inc & The Veterans Coalition fully supports the HR 543 The Blue Water Navy Vietnam Veterans Act of 2013.

Your Committee and the Veterans Administration already knows that Australia already accepted such conditions and accepted Blue Water Navy connection. Let us face it we know the U.S and Australia have people working in each other's Veterans Administration system and why would the Government and Veterans Administration deny this bill and let it stagnate or passed by?

Getting a response from the Secretary of Veterans Affairs and Sir, even yourself is worse than trying to pull teeth! We know it is all about Money and the history of the Government and the Veterans Administration trying to delay any connection as long as possible so as not to incur expenses or compensation.

Chairman Miller, you need to get the Bill HR 543 up and passed so Blue Water Navy can be provided with Services.

**Article
Headline:** HR 543 Has 251 Cosponsors

**Article
Text:**

~~There is a bill waiting to be brought out of the House of Representatives committee, HR 543 The Blue Water Navy Vietnam veterans Act of 2013. this bill is being passed by because of the other scandals involving the Department of Veterans Affairs. The Blue Water Navy Veterans are in need, will you help? Exposure to Agent Orange has been linked to numerous health problems, including non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma, prostate cancer, Type II Diabetes, Parkinson's disease, and other issues. In 1991, legislation was enacted that empowered the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to declare certain illnesses "presumptive" to exposure to Agent Orange and enabled Vietnam veterans to receive disability compensation for these related conditions. However, in 2002, the VA limited the law to only those veterans who could provide proof



**VETERANS OF THE VIETNAM WAR, INC.
& THE VETERANS COALITION**

International Headquarters

805 South Township Boulevard, Pittston, PA 18640

Phone: 570-603-9740 ~ ~ Fax: 570-603-9741

1-800-843-8626 ~ ~ E-mail: vvnwnatl@epix.net

Websites: vvnw.org or theveteranscoalition.org

All Veterans – All Military Welcome



of "boots on the ground" in Vietnam. As a result, veterans who served in the waters off the coast of Vietnam were forced to file individual claims with the VA to restore their benefits, which are then decided on a case-by-case basis. After 40 years the evidence needed for these Veterans to obtain benefits no longer exists. I urge you, the public, to communicate to Representative Jeff Miller R-FL, the Chairman of the House Committee on Veterans Affairs, that HR 543, The Blue Water Navy Vietnam Veterans Act of 2013, now has 251 cosponsors and your support. Call Phone: (202) 225-4136. This is enough for a discharge petition to force it to the House floor. This would be an embarrassing situation to this committee. After 14 years of being disenfranchised by the Department of Veterans Affairs, the Blue Water Navy deserves its day on the House floor for a vote. The estimate is that 36,000 Veterans of the Blue Water Navy are being denied health care today. With the fiasco facing this nation with the deaths of Veterans in care of the DVA, let's not add to the count. For more information on exposure and the DVA read A Re-Analysis of Blue Water Navy Veterans and Agent Orange Exposure at www.bluewaternavy.org.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Peter J Forbes".

Peter J Forbes
U.S National Commander