

February 18, 1988
4448B/DE/rr

INTRODUCED BY: **PAUL BARDEN**

PROPOSED NO.: **88 - 179**

MOTION NO. **7109**

A MOTION requesting Congress to examine claims of veterans exposed to Agent Orange; requesting appropriate compensation; requesting initiation of hearings and funding for necessary studies.

WHEREAS, the King County council is concerned with the health and well-being of veterans in King County, and

WHEREAS, nineteen million gallons of herbicide, such as Agent Orange, was sprayed over Vietnamese land and American soldiers during an eight-year period beginning in 1962, and

WHEREAS, many veterans who served in Vietnam have been exposed to a variety of toxic chemicals during their tour of duty including Agent Orange, arsenic, and DDT, and

WHEREAS, adequate steps have not been taken to research the health effects on humans of Agent Orange and other pesticides used during the Vietnam War, and

WHEREAS, current studies have not determined the role of Agent Orange and other pesticides in the post-war ailments of veterans and the birth defects in their children and grandchildren, and

WHEREAS, a recent study looking into the effects of Agent Orange on veterans by the Federal Center for Disease Control has been canceled with no conclusive results, and

WHEREAS, the Veterans Administration has released a report stating that Vietnam veterans exposed to Agent Orange have a fifty-eight percent higher death rate from lung cancer and a one hundred ten percent higher death rate from non-Hodgkin's lymphomas, and

1 WHEREAS, the Independent Agent Orange Network is working
2 towards treatment and compensation for veterans with
3 chemical-related diseases, and

4 WHEREAS, the Independent Agent Orange Network is calling for
5 further in-depth studies on the effects of herbicides on veterans
6 and a greater national understanding of the effects of Agent
7 Orange on veterans, and

8 WHEREAS, there has been no federal compensation and scant
9 private compensation to veterans with post-war ailments
10 associated with exposure to Agent Orange, and

11 WHEREAS, more in-depth study is needed to understand the
12 overall results of exposure to Agent Orange, and

13 WHEREAS, additional scientific research is required before
14 more than five thousand lawsuits concerning Agent Orange can be
15 settled;

16 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT MOVED by the Council of King County:

17 Congress is hereby requested to look into the claims of
18 veterans exposed to Agent Orange, provide compensation based on
19 available data, initiate hearings regarding the cancellation of
20 Agent Orange studies, and provide funding for the continuation of
21 those studies. In addition, Congress is urged to quickly
22 initiate studies that will answer the deadly questions about
23 Agent Orange and work to resolve this problem for thousands of
24 Vietnam veterans.
25
26
27
28
29
30
31
32
33

BE IT FURTHER MOVED,

That copies of this motion be immediately transmitted to the Honorable Ronald Reagan, President of the United States, the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and each member of Congress from the State of Washington.

PASSED this 29th day of February, 1988.

KING COUNTY COUNCIL
KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON


Chairman

ATTEST:


Clerk of the Council