

The House Committee on Defense and Veterans Affairs offers the following substitute to HR 1612:

A RESOLUTION

1 Urging the federal government to take extra measures to provide the necessary health care
2 and the additional needs of our military veterans, other affected federal employees, and their
3 families who were affected by the contaminated water at Camp Lejeune; and for other
4 purposes.

5 WHEREAS, for 30 years, highly contaminated substances such as fuel and dry cleaning
6 chemicals seeped into the primary water system at the Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune in
7 North Carolina; and

8 WHEREAS, it took nearly 50 years to discover the contamination; and

9 WHEREAS, in the early 1980s, after discovering evidence of the contaminated drinking
10 water, some water wells were closed; and

11 WHEREAS, the contamination has been linked to at least eight deadly diseases, ranging
12 from leukemia to bladder cancer; and

13 WHEREAS, 900,000 military and federal personnel were affected by this unseen enemy, and
14 many of them, along with their loved ones, died as a direct result of the diseases contracted
15 due to the contamination; and

16 WHEREAS, the United States Department of Veteran Affairs linked scientific and medical
17 evidence between the exposure to the contaminated water and the eight diseases prevalent
18 in military veterans, other affected federal employees, and their families and is providing \$2
19 billion in disability benefits to those who contracted medical diseases from the
20 contamination.

21 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
22 the members of this body urge the federal government to take extra measures to provide the

23 necessary health care and the additional needs of our military veterans, other affected federal
24 employees, and their families who were affected by the contaminated water at Camp
25 Lejeune.

26 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
27 and directed to make appropriate copies of this resolution available for distribution to the
28 Secretary of the United States Department of Veteran Affairs and to each member of the
29 Georgia congressional delegation.