The American Legion

For God and Country

bulletin

National Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation Commission
1608 K Street, N.W. • Washington, D.C. 20006
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Department of Veterans Affairs Extends Presumptive Period for Compensation for Gulf War Undiagnosed Illness

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) has issued an interim final rule, effective December 18, 2006, extending the current presumptive period, which was set to expire at the end of this year, to December 31, 2011, for compensation for disabilities resulting from undiagnosed illnesses suffered by veterans who served in the Persian Gulf War. VA published an interim final rule in the Federal Register on December 18, 2006. Public comments must be received by VA on or before February 16, 2007.

More than 16 years have passed since the 1991 Gulf War and major questions regarding the etiology of the chronic unexplained multi-symptom illnesses suffered by thousands of Gulf War veterans remain unanswered; research is ongoing. Moreover, an end date for the Gulf War has not been established by Congress or the President and military operations in the Southwest Asia theater of operations continue. Although we are pleased that the Secretary extended the presumptive period another five years, The American Legion, for the foregoing reasons, supports, by resolution, an indefinite extension of the presumptive period.

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