

To: Mr. John Rowan, President, VVA

It was nine years ago that a handful of VVA members and an outside individual met at VVA headquarters to hash out what we felt was necessary to help get research and treatment for our children, grandchildren and for those future progenies not yet born. Subsequently that meeting was a positive precursor to what eventually **(became)** legislation. In the interim the bill was watered down to exclude treatment and research was called research **into** the treatment of illnesses for the children. Now, it seems as though Public Law **114-315** passed **it** is dead in the water. All deadlines have been ignored by the VA, the VSO's are lying low and now we have titles such as "Interim", Acting and "Incompetence" when reading about the VA. To get action on this law, will funding be deducted from our own disability compensation (as **H.R. 299** will be doing to the young vets of today). To close, veterans should not be tasked with paying for the compensation of other veterans.

I am not against H.R. 299, just the way it will be funded.

Michael R. Eckstein, Chairman Agent Orange/Dioxin Committee
VVA New Jersey State Council and VVA Chapter 327 (Northwest New Jersey)