

Summary of the 2015 reauthorization of the James Zadroga 9/11 Health and Compensation that was passed by Congress and signed into law by President Obama.

World Trade Center Health Program Section (score \$3.5 billion):

Extends the Health Program to 2090 with only minor revisions:

- Adds a requirement that the Administrator provide for an independent peer review of the scientific and technical evidence prior to adding a condition to the List of WTC-Related Health Conditions.
- Changes the deadline for the Administrator to act on petitions to add health conditions to within 90 days.
- Sets yearly caps for funding for the health program for the first 10 years and then ties future increases to the Consumer Price Index for all urban consumers.
- Allows any unexpended funding in each year to be available for use in future years. Requires a GAO report every 5 years to ensure program integrity.
- Other technical changes

Victim Compensation Fund Section (score \$4.6 billion)

Extends the September 11th Victim Compensation Fund for an additional 5 years and adds an additional \$4.6 billion to pay claims.

Revisions:

- All applicants that received an award determination letter before the day of enactment will receive the full amount of their award.
- The following caps and limits will apply to any applicant that has not received an award letter by the day of enactment:
- Codification of the legal definition for the exposure area – the area will be the same as that used by the current VCF program but would take an act of Congress to expand the area in the future.
- Non-economic loss awards for cancer claims capped at \$250,000.
- Non-economic loss awards for non-cancer claims capped at \$90,000.
- The yearly salary maximum for the calculation of economic awards capped at \$200,000/year.
- Minimum payments will no longer be provided.
- The Special Master is required to re-evaluate the policies once a year to ensure that spending and award determinations prioritize those suffering from the most debilitating conditions.
- Other technical changes.