



# **Veterans-For-Change Newsletter**

*A Voice of the Veterans*

Week Ending Sunday, December 30, 2018

Volume 9, Issue 51



## **This-N-That**

This newsletter will be somewhat short, not much new information out there mainly due to the Christmas and New Year holiday.

We do hope you all have a wonderful Christmas, and Santa was good to everyone. We also want to wish everyone a Happy, Joyous, Safe and Prosperous New Year!

Blue Water Navy Veterans are constantly on my

mind, and although they have a huge mountain to climb, the end result of passing HR 299 is not impossible yet.

Providing benefits and healthcare to BWN Veterans is only one of hundreds of issues that need to be fixed, and I'm quite confident that if we all chip in and do our part to help them, once it's passed and signed into law that the BWN Veterans would gladly chip in and help us in other fights all to make the VA better for all.

We need for everyone to please call Senator Mitch McConnell, even if you're not his constituent and ask that he please bring HR 299 to the floor for a vote. His Washington DC office number is 202-224-2541.

Then we need for you to call Senator Mike Enzi in his DC office at 202-224-3424 and ask that he kindly change his position on the bill and vote for the bill to pass.

Then call Senator Mike Lee in his DC office at 202-224-5444 and ask that he kindly change his position on the bill and vote for the bill to pass.

Then if you would also please make time to call all of the following people and ask if they would please vote yes on HR 299 when it comes to the floor would help a great deal!

Senator Isakson 202-224-3643 & 770-661-0999

Senator Moran 202-224-6521

Senator Boozman 202-224-4843

Senator Rounds 202-224-5842

Senator Sullivan 202-224-3004

Senator Tillis 202-224-6342

Senator Cassidy 202-224-5824

Senator Heller 202-224-6244

Senator Tester 202-224-2644

Senator Brown 202-224-2315

Senator Sanders 202-224-5141

Senator Blumenthal 202-224-2823

Senator Murray 202-224-2621

Senator Hirono 202-224-2621

Senator Manchin 202-224-3954

Your calls are very important to thousands of Veterans, and we're asking you to make the calls immediately, then if you would, please call them every Friday, slow down their office, drive a point home that this bill must pass and quickly.

Just keep it simple, polite, and when you end your call, be sure to thank them for their time!

On behalf of our Volunteers nationwide and myself, we wish you and your family good health and a safe and Happy New Year!

Respectfully,

Jim Davis

Founder

[Jim.Davis@Veterans-For-Change.org](mailto:Jim.Davis@Veterans-For-Change.org)



**KBR Files Motion with Supreme  
Court in Attempt to Nix Burn Pit  
Review**

Military contractor Kellogg, Brown, and Root (KBR) has filed a brief with the U.S. Supreme Court, asking it to throw out multiple lawsuits filed by veterans who say they were made sick by burn pits the company used for waste disposal on bases in Iraq and Afghanistan. In a brief filed last week, officials for KBR and its former subsidiary Halliburton urged the court not to restore dozens of the lawsuits filed against the companies, who handled daily operations for many of the bases starting in 2001. Read more in this [story](#).





## Veterans-For-Change Web Site

The Veterans-For-Change website has been under construction since day one back in 2009 and every day since then. The looks pretty much stay the same, but in the background constant improvement and change is being done to make our website the most user friendly “**One-Stop-Shop**” website to find almost everything you might have tried to find searching the internet.

Almost a hundred people have been involved; collecting web links to documents now houses on the VFC website, collecting thousands of web links for various issues, illnesses and benefits. Creating forums for all eras of service and two forums one just for men and one just for woman where you can go question, comment, share medical and personal concerns, what ever you'd like it to be.

We also have a forum with for Mental Health and

are currently seeking a new Licensed Mental Health Worker, where you can seek help or just ask questions.

We average **1,540** hits per day, and downloads average **1,100** per day with a total **4,616,055** visitors as of Friday.

If you subscribe you will have full access to the entire website and best of all it's **FREE of charge!** You just need a valid E-mail address so the system can send you a confirmation E-Mail. Once received, click on the link to be authorized automatically.

[www.veterans-for-change.org](http://www.veterans-for-change.org)

- Documents Library with over **16,843** documents on-line (Updated: 12/23/18)
- FAQ's with more than **1,600** FAQ's and answers
- Multiple Forums
  - o Afghanistan Veterans
  - o FMP - Foreign Medial Program
  - o Gulf War & Desert Storm Veterans
  - o Iraq Veterans
  - o Korean Veterans

- o Men Veterans Forum
- o Mental Health for Veterans (*Counselor Needed*)
- o Political Issues
- o Suggestion Box
- o The Mess Hall
- o VA Hospitals and Medical Centers
- o Veteran Affairs
- o Vietnam Veterans
- o Welcome Mat
- o Women Veterans Forum
- o WW II Veterans
- Job Postings
- Memorial Pages (Updated: 10/30/18) (37 Added)
- News (Articles On-Line: **8,090**)
- Polls
- Web Links, more than **4,580**, Added 173 New Links (Updated: 12/06/18)

If you have a submission for the memorial pages,  
E-Mail: [Jim.Davis@veterans-for-change.org](mailto:Jim.Davis@veterans-for-change.org)



**Veterans-For-Change Makes Social  
Media Change**



Effective immediately, all social media pages that have been on Face Book for many years have all been moved to MEWE.com for a number of reasons.

We know most people don't like change, however, this new Social Media Site, MEWE.COM has no advertisers, truly respects privacy and protects your security far better than Face Book ever could. They also have a fantastic customer service group who actually does respond to your messages, suggestions, ideas and more!

We hope you will join us on this new site.

### **Veterans-For-Change**

[www.mewe.com/join/veterans-for-change](http://www.mewe.com/join/veterans-for-change)

### **Homeless Heroes Program of Veterans-For-Change**

[www.mewe.com/join/homelessheroesprogramofveterans-for-change](http://www.mewe.com/join/homelessheroesprogramofveterans-for-change)

### **AMVETS Group**

[www.mewe.com/join/amvetsgroup](http://www.mewe.com/join/amvetsgroup)

## VETERANS SOCIAL GROUP

[www.mewe.com/join/veteranssocialgroup](http://www.mewe.com/join/veteranssocialgroup)

## {USAVET} SUPPORTING GOD & ALL WHO SERVED OUR GREAT NATION

[www.mewe.com/join/usavetsupportinggodallwhoserveandserve](http://www.mewe.com/join/usavetsupportinggodallwhoserveandserve)

## AMERICANS FOR SOVEREIGNTY

[www.mewe.com/join/americansforsovereignty](http://www.mewe.com/join/americansforsovereignty)



December's Featured Song

## **Prayer For A Soldier**

By

LT Bobby Ross

LT Bobby Ross - Voice Of America

## **Previous Featured Songs**



## **Class-Action Suit Could Aid More Than 50,000 Veterans**

Through the efforts of a Yale Law School clinic, more than 50,000 U.S. [Army](#) veterans of Iraq and Afghanistan are part of a newly certified class-action lawsuit that challenges the less than honorable discharges they received. The plaintiffs are represented by the Yale Law School Veterans Legal Services Clinic and co-counsel at Jenner & Block. Read more in this [story](#).



## **Pet-Friendly Hotels with Military Discounts**

Animal lovers know that pets are like family, which is why so many of us have a hard time being away from our four-legged friends while traveling. Fortunately, there are many pet-friendly hotels that allow your furry companion to join you on your travel adventures. Find hotel chains that offer both military discounts and pet-friendly accommodations in this [article](#).



**CONTACT YOUR  
MEMBERS OF CONGRESS!**

To Call your Representative:

202-225-2305

To Call your Senators:

202-224-3841 or 202-224-3553

To call Different Members of Congress:

202-224-3121

TOLL FREE: 866-272-6622

**PLEASE... STOP Making Excuses!**

[www.veterans-for-change.org](http://www.veterans-for-change.org)



**Your TRICARE Supplement = \$0 Out  
of Pocket Costs**

Get a TRICARE supplement that pays your cost shares and can pay 100% of covered excess charges. [Get valuable coverage now.](#)





## **AMERICAN SOLDIERS**

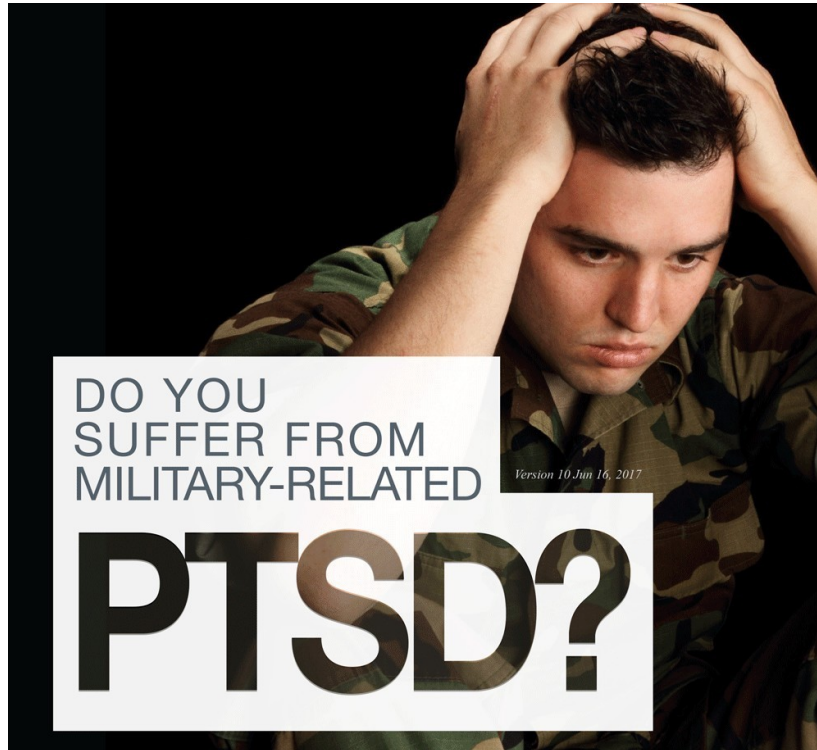
**WILLING TO DIE FOR THE COUNTRY  
THAT ISN'T WILLING TO PAY THEM!**



## **Jump Start 2019 with the 2019 \$0 Down VA Loan Benefit Now**

VA Loan limits have increased to \$484k. Take advantage of this great benefit and lock in a low rate for as little as \$0 down. [Use your VA loan benefit today.](#)





**Veterans Crisis Line:  
1-800-273-8255 & Press 1  
Ntl Call Center for Homeless Vets  
1-877-424-3838**



**Airmen Sue Defense Department  
over Discharges for HIV Status**

Two U.S. **Air Force** airmen are suing the Defense Department and outgoing Defense Secretary Jim Mattis on grounds they were wrongfully terminated from the service because they were diagnosed with HIV last year. HIV-positive personnel in the Air Force **must undergo medical evaluation** for the purpose of determining status for continued military service. While the service may not dismiss an airman for having HIV, often the service member becomes non-deployable. Read more in this **story**.



**Our values  
match yours.**



[www.veterans-for-change.org](http://www.veterans-for-change.org)



**The Navy Wants Applicants for  
National Intelligence University**



The Navy is looking for enlisted information warfare sailors to attend the National Intelligence University (NIU). Active duty sailors in the cryptologic technician (CT), intelligence specialist (IS) and information systems technician (IT) ratings can apply for NIU for Bachelor of Science in intelligence, Master of Science of strategic intelligence and Master of Science and technology intelligence degree programs. Sailors must be an E-5 or above and eligible for a continental U.S. shore assignment between April 2019 and January 2020. Those who want to apply should contact their detailer immediately. Visit the [NIU website](#) for more information.





## **VA Suspends All Discharges from Caregiver Program**

The [Department of Veterans Affairs](#) announced Dec. 21 it would temporarily stop discharging veterans from a program that provides compensation and benefits to family members who take care of them. The VA said it was halting dismissals because of "continued concerns expressed by veterans, caregivers and advocates about inconsistent application of eligibility requirements by VA medical centers" of the program. Read more in this [story](#).



**Veterans Affairs to Help ECA  
Students Hurt by Closures**

Students impacted by the closure of the about 70 campuses run by the Education Corporation of America (ECA) might be eligible for restoration of a portion of their post-9/11 GI Bill entitlement. ECA announced that it is closing its Brightwood College, Brightwood Career Institute, EcoTech Institute, Golf Academy of America and Virginia College schools. VA officials are in the process of identifying impacted beneficiaries.



## **Tech for Troops Combats Veteran Homelessness**

One nonprofit is hoping to fight veteran homelessness by teaching veterans information technology (IT) skills. Since 2014 the VA has partnered with the program, which offers three courses focusing on IT training, technology reuse and computer recycling. For more information, [read this blog post](#) on the VA website or visit [Tech for Troops](#).



## Links to Other Stories

1. 1,300 disabled Vets are getting billed for thousands of dollars ... because VA didn't check their email
2. Columbia Falls man admits government benefits fraud
3. Former Nurse at Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center Indicted on Charges of Fraudulently Obtaining Controlled Substances for His Own Purposes
4. Jim Turner, a retired Marine colonel, took his life at the Bay Pines VA campus. He was the 5th Veteran to do so since 2013
5. Spiritual Approaches Critical to Veterans Dealing With PTSD
6. Trouble in Congress for Veterans claiming Agent Orange illnesses
7. Twice deported Veteran buried in Texas with military funeral honors
8. U.S. Army Veteran And Former Government Employee Indicted For Wire Fraud
9. VA Acquisition Academy Expands the Warriors to Workforce Program

10. VA left millions unspent for Veterans suicide prevention: GAO
11. Women Veterans: Managing Post Deployment Stress
12. Hospital ship USNS Comfort returns home after completing mission
13. VA Surgeon Vindicated After Prosecutors Drop Case

You can help VFC by reading articles posted and commenting at the bottom and rate the articles. If you don't have an account, sign up today, it's **FREE**. Your comments and rankings tell us what type of information you want most.

Check us out today: [www.veterans-for-change.org](http://www.veterans-for-change.org)



*CLICK HERE TO FOLLOW US ON TWITTER!*



## Office of Inspector General

1. Services Need to Assess the Effectiveness of Their Initiative to Maintain Critical Skills [Reissued with revisions on Dec. 26, 2018.]
2. Information on the Second Year of Nationwide Reduced Payment Rates for Durable Medical Equipment



**“We Proudly Support our  
Military Personnel & Families”**



**Need Health Advice? Talk to a  
Registered Nurse Anytime**

Sometimes you need a quick answer to a health question, and it helps to have an expert to turn to. With the Military Health System (MHS) Nurse Advice Line, you can get advice from a registered nurse anytime, 24/7. Whether you're worried about your sick child, or need health care advice while traveling, the MHS Nurse Advice Line is only a call or click away.

Read the full article [here](#).



**SURVIVAL IS FUN**





# Tax & Credit --- Information



1. Individuals can find answers to their questions about tax reform on [IRS.gov](http://IRS.gov)
2. IRS issues guidance on changes to excess business and net operating losses
3. IRS takes additional steps to protect taxpayer data; partners with tax professionals
4. IRS: Make an estimated tax payment now to avoid a tax time surprise
5. New IRS resources on [IRS.gov](http://IRS.gov) help businesses understand tax reform
6. These videos will help taxpayers learn more about how tax reform affects their taxes



If you received this newsletter as a courtesy or a forward from a friend or relative, you can sign up to receive in your E-mail every week.



*CLICK HERE TO SUBSCRIBE TO THE VFC NEWSLETTER!*



**ONE VOICE**  
CAN MAKE  
**ALL THE DIFFERENCE!**

VETERANS FOR CHANGE™  
EST 2006

The complex block features a blue gradient background. On the left, the slogan "ONE VOICE CAN MAKE ALL THE DIFFERENCE!" is written in a dark blue, serif font. On the right, the "Veterans for Change" logo is displayed, featuring a bald eagle with its wings spread, perched atop a stylized American flag. The text "VETERANS FOR CHANGE" is arched above the eagle, and "EST 2006" is written in small letters at the bottom right of the logo.

# Veterans-For-Change, Inc.

Riverside County, CA

Visit our website today

[www.Veterans-For-Change.org](http://www.Veterans-For-Change.org)

Serving those who served!

**Please pass on to all your Veteran Friends  
and Family!**



**Please do not reply to this E-Mail,  
this is an unattended E-Mail address,  
please send all correspondence to:**

[Jim.Davis@veterans-for-change.org](mailto:Jim.Davis@veterans-for-change.org)

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