



Veterans-For-Change Newsletter

A Voice of the Veterans

**Kind regards,
Your Team at Company Name**

Week Ending Sunday, August 30, 2020

Volume 11, Issue 31



This-N-That

Good evening Jim,

Finally it's been officially announced that the DoD is issuing new identification cards. There are two places in this newsletter that provide you more information.

Also, if you live in one of the several disaster area's there are notices in this newsletter that might help you

with obtaining prescriptions on time, please check those out.

This week we've added quite a few pieces of legislation that needs everyone's help by clicking and sending out the pre-written E-Mails. And a reminder you don't need to be in the service, or a Veteran to help, anyone and everyone is encouraged to do all of them.

And if you can, get yourself into a routine of sending them out weekly. Each of the difference systems allows you to send the E-Mails once a week, we also encourage you to call your reps and senators weekly as well.

It only takes maybe 30-40 minutes to call all three and ask for their support of on each of the Veteran's legislation.

All of them need our attention, but there are two types of legislation that truly need our attention! One is to deal with **Veteran Suicide** while the other is to deal with **homelessness** among **Veterans**. Mind you this in not to say all are not important, but that they are all important, but those two specific issues need our help the hardest.

If you live in California, we strongly urge you to call

your rep and both senators and respectfully demand that all civilian businesses be permanently evicted off the West Los Angeles Veterans Medical Center and all facilities and grounds be returned to Veterans and specifically homeless Veterans.

The VA still continues to tout that there are only 40,000 homeless Veterans nationwide when in fact that number is well over ONE MILLION nationwide and in excess of 9,000 in Los Angeles alone.

Labor Day, the first Monday in September, is a creation of the labor movement and is dedicated to the social and economic achievements of American workers. It constitutes a yearly national tribute to the contributions workers have made to the strength, prosperity, and well-being of our country.

Please be safe, please practice the guidelines, don't let your friends or family wake up to your passing!


On behalf of our Volunteers nationwide and myself, we wish you and your family good health!

Respectfully,

Jim Davis


Founder

Jim.Davis@Veterans-For-Change.org



DoD Is Now Issuing New ID Cards

The Department of Defense (DoD) has announced that it is issuing new ID cards for retirees and dependents known as Next Generation Uniformed Services Identification Cards, which will replace the current laminated paper card that has been used since 1993. The new cards are made with a more durable plastic material, similar to the common access cards used by members of the military and DoD civilians. Also, the new ID cards feature enhanced security measures that will reduce the likelihood of them being compromised. Although the new ID cards are available now, only about 20 Real-Time Automated Personnel Identification Card System (RAPIDS) sites currently offer the card because new equipment is required to produce them. All RAPIDS sites worldwide will likely have the new equipment by the end of the year. The complete transition to the new ID card, is targeted for January 2026. To locate a RAPIDS site and make an appointment, [go online](#).



Senate Veterans Affairs Committee sends 12 bills to Floor; VA Mail and Postal Service

SVAC moves 12 bills to Senate Floor

Since the House has already passed similar legislation the project is to reconcile differences in HOUSE/SENATE versions and get them enacted into law before the end of the year.

[S.3282](#), cited as the Protecting Business Opportunities for Veterans Act of 2020, applies certain small business subcontracting limitations to contracts that the VA awards to a small business concern owned and controlled by a Veteran or a Veteran with a service-connected disability.

[S.2558](#), cited as the Nursing Home Care for Native American Veterans Act, expands eligibility for grants that provide per diem funding to state nursing homes for Veterans to include Veterans homes established by Native America tribes.

[S.3643](#), cited as the VA Mission Telehealth Clarification Act, authorizes certain health care employees and health professions trainees of the Department of Veterans Affairs to provide treatment via telemedicine.

[S.2950](#), cited as the Veterans Burn Pits Exposure Recognition Act of 2019, amends title 38 to concede exposure to airborne hazards and toxins from burn pits

under certain circumstances. TREA strongly supports.

S.4384, cited as A bill to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to address exposure by members of the Armed Forces to toxic substances at Karshi-Khanabad Air Base, Uzbekistan,

[S.711](#), cited as the CARE for Reservists Act of 2019, amends title 38 to expand eligibility for mental health services from the VA to include members of the reserve components of the Armed Forces. TREA Strongly supports.

[S.332](#), cited as the Agent Orange Fairness Act of 2019, expands the eligibility for a presumption of service-connection for Veterans exposed to herbicides during military service in Vietnam. Specifically, this bill removes the "manifestation period" required for the presumption of service-connection for chloracne and porphyria cutanea tarda and provides statutory authority for a presumption of service-connection for certain cases of acute and subacute peripheral neuropathy without a manifestation period.

[S.805](#), cited as the Veteran Debt Fairness Act of 2019, limits the authority of the VA to recover overpayments of benefits from Veterans. In short, the VA may only deduct the amount of debt of any Veteran who is in debt because of participation in a VA benefits program

from future benefit payments if the debt is the result of the following:

1. failure
to
report
correct,
required
information
to
the
VA
by
the
Veteran
(or
other
party
involved)
2. fraud
or
misrepresentation
perpetrated
by
the
Veteran
(or
other
party)
3. a
reduction
in

or
termination
of
pursuit
of
a
program
of
education,
in
the
case
of
a
recipient
of
educational
assistance;
or

4. failure
to
complete
a
service
agreement
in
the
case
of
the
transfer
of
education

assistance

[S.514](#), cited as the Deborah Sampson Act, is landmark TREA backed legislation that is one of the most comprehensive women Veterans healthcare packages ever conceptualized.

[S.629](#), cited as the Accountability in Department of Veterans Affairs Scheduling and Consult Management Act, requires the VA Secretary to review the process and requirements of the VA for scheduling appointments for health care and conducting consultations under the laws administered by the Secretary.

[S.2216](#), cited as the TEAM Veteran Caregivers Act, requires the VA to formally recognize caregivers of Veterans by identifying any caregiver in the health record of the Veteran and requires VA to notify Veterans and their caregivers regarding any clinical determinations made relating to claims under, or eligibility for, the specified caregiver programs.

[S.3235](#), requires the VA to conduct a two-year pilot program to study the effectiveness of nonprofit post-traumatic growth programs to see to the feasibility of integrating such programs into the VA's existing mental health care programs. According to congress.gov, the bill "makes Veterans who are not at immediate risk of

attempting suicide and not participating in traditional mental health treatment eligible for such program."



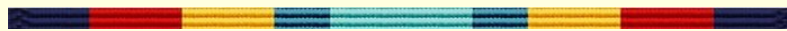
Emergency Prescription Procedures for Storms Laura and Marco

Due to tropical activity in the Gulf of Mexico from Laura and Marco, emergency prescription procedures are in place for affected states:

- Alabama until August 31 for all counties
- Florida until August 31 for all counties
- Georgia until August 30 for all counties
- Louisiana until August 31 for all parishes
- Mississippi until August 31 for all counties
- Texas until August 31 for select coastal counties

For more information, visit the [tricare.mil disaster alerts](https://www.tricare.mil/disaster-alerts)

page.



Links to Other Stories

1. NextHealth
Marketer
Charged
in
\$60
Million
Kickback
Scheme
2. Agawam
Man
Pleads
Guilty
to
Defrauding
VA
Hospitals
by
Failing
to
Inspect
Medical
Gas
Systems
3. Max
Prison

Sentence
+
Restitution
For
Discharged
Veteran
Who
Faked
Military
Honors
And
Combat-
Related
Mental
Health
Illness
To
Claim
VA
Benefits

4. North
Country
Man
Sentenced
for
Making
a
False
Statement
to
the
VA

5. Advocates

begin
'final
push'
to
get
benefits
for
Vietnam
War
Veterans

6. Family
seeks
damages
after
Veteran's
suicide
inside
VA
mental
health
unit
7. Postmaster
pledges
Veterans'
prescriptions
won't
be
hurt
by
mail
service
changes
8. The

VA
doesn't
cover
fertility
treatments
for
unmarried
Veterans
or
same-
sex
couples.
Some
want
to
change
that.

9. Acting
VA
deputy
secretary
thanks
Vietnam
Veterans
during
ceremony

10. VA
responds
to
COVID-
19
with
schedule

revisions
to
electronic
health
record
implementation

11. VA
to
award
more
than
\$400
million
in
grants
to
end
Veteran
homelessness

12. New
data
shows
Veterans'
increased
use
of
online
VA
health
care
tools
during
COVID-

19
pandemic

13. VA,
Elizabeth
Dole
Foundation
to
offer
respite
relief
for
Veteran
caregivers

14. VA,
America's
Adopt
A
Soldier
partner
to
help
Veterans
at
risk
of
or
experiencing
homelessness
stay
connected

15. VA
publishes
final

regulation
for
its
Program
of
Comprehensive
Assistance
for
Family
Caregivers

16. Veteran
guides
others
with
PTSD
to
avoid
suicidal
thoughts

17. Veterans
benefits
2020:
Largest
or
most
successful
state
employer
of
Veterans

18. New
guide
series

provides
GI
Bill
benefits
information

19. MHS
addresses
sleep
in
the
military
through
sleep
studies

20. More
military
bases
increase
health
protections
due
to
virus

21. Ruling
on
major
GI
Bill
benefits
case
won't
come
in

time
for
fall
classes

22. More
than
2,000
Veterans
Affairs
patients
have
now
died
from
coronavirus

23. VA
Facilities
Continue
to
Hide
Doctors'
Misconduct,
Probes
Find

24. Caregivers
stipends
set
to
expand
to
Vietnam
Veterans,
older

generations
this
fall

25. Florida
Man
Pleads
Guilty
To
Threatening
A
VA
Employee
26. Wheelers
Indicted
for
Conspiracy
to
Obstruct
Justice
27. Secretary
Wilkie
honors
President
Lincoln's
second
inaugural
address
giving
VA
its
mission
and
motto

28. VA
rolls
out
new
patient-
appointment
tool,
as
part
of
electronic
health
record
modernization
transformation

29. VA
to
award
more
than
425
grants,
\$279
million
to
help
prevent
and
end
Veteran
homelessness

30. VA
partners

with
OnStar
to
bring
suicide
prevention
services
to
Veterans
with
the
push
of
a
button

31. VA
decreases
mail
processing
time
for
claims
intake

32. VA
prepares
to
welcome
volunteers
back
to
health
care
facilities

33. VA
launches
pre-
entry
screening
tool
34. Here's
how
two
service
members
made
their
decisions
about
the
new
retirement
system
35. Veteran's
Appendectomy
Launches
Excruciating,
Months-
Long
Battle
Over
Bill
36. Department
of
Defense
and
Military

Identification
Cards

37. Permanent payroll tax cut could deplete Social Security funds by 2023: Goss
38. Veterans Benefits: Does the VA Pay for Senior Care?
39. The desperate 'pandemic' among US Veterans
40. Grateful for COVID-

19
recovery,
DHA
employee
becomes
plasma
donor

41. Elective
surgeries
resume
within
the
San
Antonio
Military
Health
System

42. Sleep,
Healthy
Diet,
and
Good
Exercise

—

Your
Invisible
Body
Armor
Against
Infection

43. AFMES
forensic
anthropologist

also
serves
as
ANG
training
manager



VA to Bring Suicide Prevention Services to Veterans with the Push of a Button

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) announced a new partnership with OnStar's emergency services to improve access to suicide prevention resources for Veterans. This partnership will offer Veterans who is in crisis the opportunity to be transferred to around-the-clock, confidential support via VA's Veterans Crisis Line (1-800-273-8255, or text to: 838255) when they use the emergency services button in an OnStar-equipped vehicle or OnStar Guardian smartphone app.

"The VA-OnStar partnership aims to promote suicide prevention and reduce deaths by suicide by providing additional resources to Veterans," said VA Secretary Robert Wilkie. "This partnership will help Veterans access suicide prevention support services and assistance directly and immediately. More than 400 VA suicide prevention coordinators and their teams, located at every VA medical center, connect Veterans with care and educate the community about suicide prevention programs and resources daily."

The announcement noted that an average of 20 Veterans die by suicide each day. Through this partnership, the VA and OnStar, a wholly owned subsidiary of General Motors, will collaborate to provide education and training to VA clinicians and OnStar call center staff to facilitate suicide prevention efforts for Veterans. Additionally, the VA will provide resources and education to OnStar about military culture and how to determine if a caller is a Veteran.



[Veterans-For-Change Web Site](#)

The Veterans-For-Change website has been around since 2009. The looks pretty much stay the same, but in the background our new webmaster has been

making repairs to things that haven't worked properly in over a year.

There are still repairs being made, but the polls are now working 100% and there are **fourteen polls open to all to take.**

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 **3,210** hits per day, and downloads average **4,045** per day with a total **6,604,528** 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

- Documents Library with over **18,730** documents in 171+ Libraries, added 31 documents on-line (Updated: 04/19/20)
- FAQ's on-line with **1,843** FAQ's on 104 topics! (Updated 05/30/20 - 46 NEW)
- 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: 04/23/20) (3 Added)
 - News (Articles On-Line: **9,934**)
 - Polls
 - Web Links, more than **7,637**, Added 20 New Links (Updated: 08/05/20)


If you have a submission for the memorial pages, E-Mail: Jim.Davis@Veterans-for-change.org



Find TRICARE Options that Fit Your Health Care Needs

Health services come in many forms. Sometimes it means going to your doctor for a routine checkup. Other times it means getting care from a specialty provider, like a dermatologist or cardiologist. But what if you need care for an extended amount of time? While TRICARE doesn't cover long-term care (also known as custodial care), it does cover other specialty care services you may need to support your unique health care needs.

To learn more, [read the article](#).





Jim, below are links to all currently active pre-written E-Mails to many pieces of legislation. We ask that you go to each one, and send the pre-written E-Mails, and to also call your Reps or Senators and ask for their support on a weekly basis!

Jim you don't need to be Active Duty or a Veteran, in fact we ask all Veteran friends to also help! (Updated 08/28/20)

1. [Support Veterans Economic Recovery Act!](#)
2. [NDAA Amendment to Provide Benefits to Vets Exposed to Agent](#)

OrangeAsk
Your
Senator
to
please
support
HR.
3224
The
Deborah
Sampson
Act

3. Please
Support
Addition
of
Agent
Orange
Presumptive
Diseases
4. Support
Amendments
That
Add
Diseases
Caused
by
Agent
Orange!
5. H.R.
6027,
the
Restore

Veterans'
Compensation
Act

6. H.R.
5867,
the
STOP
Veteran
Suicide
and
Substance
Abuse
Act
7. H.R.
95,
Legislation
to
Allow
Homeless
Veterans
to
Stay
With
Their
Children
While
Receiving
Services
8. H.R.
303,
the
Retired
Pay

Restoration
Act

9. H.R.
553,
Military
Surviving
Spouses
Equity
Act

10. H.R.
1527,
the
Long-
Term
Care
Veterans
Choice
Act

11. S
179
and
HR
712,
VA
Medicinal
Cannabis
Research
Act
of
2019

12. H.R.
1200,

the
Veterans'
Compensation
Cost-
of-
Living
Adjustment
Act
of
2019

13. S.
785,
the
Commander
John
Scott
Hannon
Veterans
Mental
Health
Care
Improvement
Act

14. H.R.
96,
to
Provide
Dental
Care
for
All
Veterans
Enrolled

in
Veterans
Health
Care

15. H.R.
6590,
DAV
Supports
Deferring
Debt
Collections
during
COVID-
19
Crisis

16. H.R.
6933,
the
Caring
for
Survivors
Act
of
2020

17. Support
S.
3761/H.R.
7443
to
re-
establish
VSO
review

period
on
VBA
decisions

18. S.
4166,
Ensuring
Survivors
Benefits
during
COVID-
19
Act
of
2020

19. Please
Ask
Your
Member
Of
Congress
To
Support
Tester/Harder
Amendment
In
The
Fy2021
National
Defense



**CONTACT YOUR
MEMBERS OF CONGRESS!**

To Call your Representative:
202-225-2305

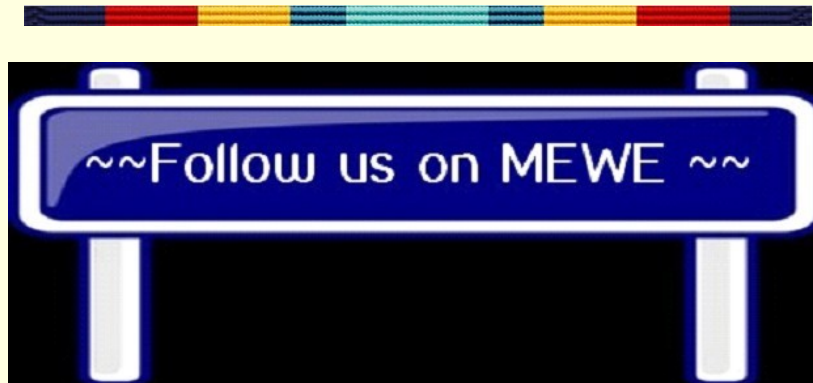
To Call your Senators:
202-224-3841 or 202-224-3553

To call Different Members of Congress:
202-224-3121

TOLL FREE: 866-272-6622

PLEASE... STOP Making Excuses!

www.veterans-for-change.org



Follow us on [MEWE](#)! The support staff at [MEWE](#) is responsive, open to suggestions and works very hard to protect your personal information.

We hope you will join us on this new site.

[VETERANS-FOR-CHANGE](#)

[HOMELESS HEROES PROGRAM OF VETERANS-FOR-CHANGE](#)

[AMVETS GROUP](#)

VETERANS SOCIAL GROUP

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

AMERICANS FOR SOVEREIGNTY



"History is not there for you to like or dislike. It is there for you to learn from it. And if it offends you, even better. Because then you are less likely to repeat it. It is not yours to erase. It belongs to all of us."



Office of Inspector General

1. Federal
Employees'
Compensation
Act:
Comparisons
of
Benefits
in
Retirement
and
Actions
Needed
to
Help

Injured
Workers
Choose
Best
Option

2. Veteran
Federal
Employment:
OPM
and
Agencies
Could
Better
Leverage
Data
to
Help
Improve
Veteran
Retention
Rates

3. 2020
Census:
Recent
Decision
to
Compress
Census
Timeframes
Poses
Additional
Risks
to

an
Accurate
Count



VFW Thanks Taiwanese Government for Generous Donation

On Monday, Veterans of Foreign Wars Washington Office Executive Director B.J. Lawrence met with Hsiao Bi-khim, Taiwan's de facto ambassador to the United States. The two met at the VFW Washington Office where Lawrence thanked her for the wonderful and generous donation of 250,000 medical masks from the Taiwanese government. The masks are scheduled to be delivered over the next few days to VFW Departments and the Veteran community around the world to help keep them healthy during the COVID-19 pandemic.



CLICK HERE TO FOLLOW US ON TWITTER !



House Veterans Committee Clears 12

bills for House Floor Action

TREA Members Legislative Update

TREA will continue to track and report updates as the House and Senate reconcile provisions and reach agreements on omnibus legislative proposals regarding health care and benefits and services to Veterans and retirees.

The House Committee on Veterans' Affairs passed 12 bills including legislation to promote equity and inclusivity at VA, update VA's exclusionary motto, extend home loans to National Guard and Reservists, and support Veterans who have become unemployed as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

A full list of bills passed can be found below:

A.N.S. means Amendment in Nature of a Substitute

1. [H.R.
5639](#)
-
Chuck
Osier
Burial
Benefits
Act;
2. A.N.S.
to

[H.R.
4908](#)

-

Native
American
PACT
Act;

3. A.N.S.

to

[H.R.
2791](#)

-

Department
of
Veterans
Affairs
Tribal
Advisory
Committee
Act

of
2019;

4. [H.R.
3010](#)

-

Honoring
All
Veterans
Act;

5. A.N.S.

to

[H.R.
6589](#)

Offered
by
Rep.
Bergman

-
CFO
Authority
and
Collaboration
Act
of
2020;

6. [H.R.4526](#)-
Brian
Tally
VA
Employment
Transparency
Act;

7. A.N.S
to
[H.R.
7111](#)

-
Veterans
Economic
Recovery
Act
of
2020;

8. A.N.S
to
[H.R.](#)

3228

-

VA

Mission

Telehealth

Clarification

Act;

9. A.N.S.

to

H.R.

7445

-

To

amend

title

38,

United

States

Code,

to

expand

eligibility

for

home

loans

from

the

Secretary

of

Veterans

Affairs

to

certain

members
of
the
reserve
components
of
the
Armed
Forces;

10. H.R.
[7795](#)

-
Veterans
Benefits
Fairness
and
Transparency
Act
of
2020;

11. Amendment
to
the
A.N.S.
to
[H.R.
5245](#)

-
Stopping
Harm
and
Implementing
Enhanced

Lead-
time
for
Debts
(SHIELD)
for
Veterans
Act;
and

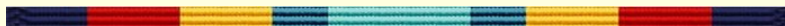
12. [H.R.
5487](#)

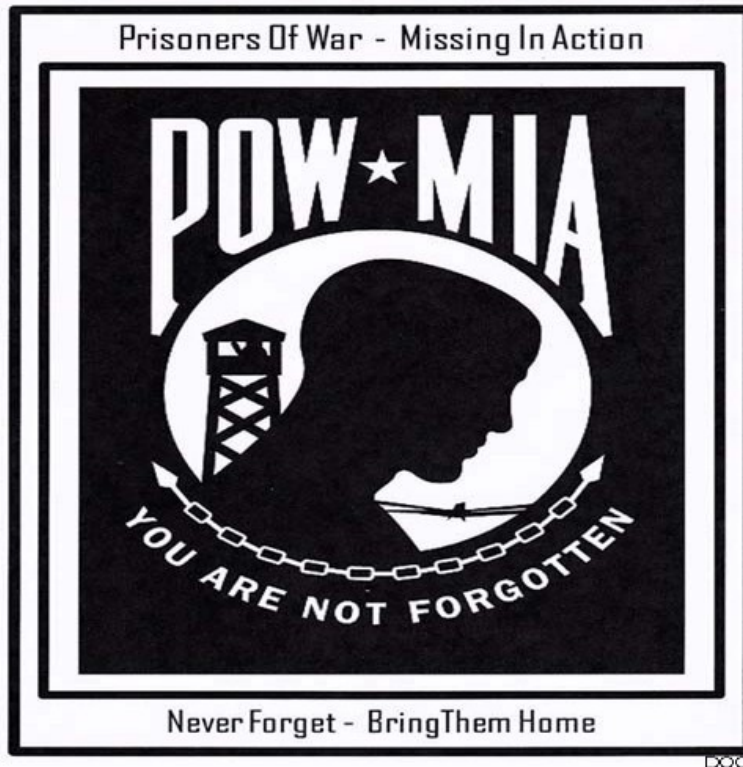
-
Veterans
Cemetery
Grants
Improvement
Act.



Emergency Prescription Procedures in Arkansas

Due to Hurricane Laura, emergency prescription procedures are in place until September 3 in the state of Arkansas. For more information, visit the [tricare.mil disaster alerts](#) page.





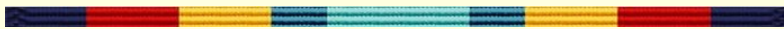
Emergency Prescription Procedures in Oregon and Colorado

Due to wildfires, emergency prescription procedures are in place until August 31 in Oregon (Deschutes and Jefferson counties) and Colorado (Eagle, Garfield, Mesa, Grand, and Larimer counties). For more information, visit the [tricare.mil disaster alerts](https://www.tricare.mil/disaster-alerts) page.



Expanded Emergency Prescription Procedures in Texas

Due to Hurricane Laura, emergency prescription procedures have been expanded in Texas until September 1. For more information and a complete list of affected counties, visit the [tricare.mil disaster alerts](https://www.tricare.mil/disaster-alerts) page.





**Our values
match yours.**



www.veterans-for-change.org



Were you or someone you know at Camp Lejeune between 1953 and 1987?

**The Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease
Registry (ATSDR)**

and the

Community Assistance Panel (CAP)

invite you to two public meetings

Tuesday, Sept. 1 at 9:00 a.m. ET

and

Saturday, Sept. 19 at 9:00 a.m. ET

Attend via online livestream or teleconference call to
learn more about ATSDR studies of the potential
health impacts from water contamination at Camp
Lejeune.

Registration is not necessary.

For more information about the meetings, visit:

[Camp Lejeune CAP Meetings](#)

To learn more about water contamination at Camp Lejeune, visit:

[Camp Lejeune Water](#)



TRICARE Q&A: What You Need to Know About Referrals, Authorizations

If you're enrolled in a TRICARE Prime plan, at some point you may need specialty care that your primary care manager (PCM) can't provide. In that case, he or

she may refer you to a specialty provider. You may need a referral and pre-authorization from your PCM to seek care from a specialty provider, depending on your TRICARE health plan.

To learn more, [read the article](#).



VFW Participates in Agent Orange Press Conference

VFW National Legislative Service Deputy Director Matthew Doyle participated in a virtual press conference hosted by Rep. Josh Harder (D-CA). The purpose was to urge Congress to add bladder cancer, hypothyroidism, and parkinsonism to the list of presumptive conditions associated with Agent Orange exposure. A provision to add these conditions is currently included in [S. 4049](#), the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2021. Doyle stated, “Many of our Vietnam Veteran members believe that VA thinks it’s too expensive to care for them. The evidence regarding these conditions is conclusive – no more studies are needed. Any additional, unnecessary delay is a breach of our nation’s promise to care for its Veterans.” [Watch the press conference.](#)



Tax & Credit Information



1. Global
Disruption
of
Three
Terror
Finance
Cyber-
Enabled

Campaigns

2. As peak hurricane season nears, IRS reminds people to prepare for natural disasters
3. IRS updates procedures for designating taxpayer disputes for litigation, implementing provisions of Taxpayer First Act
4. IRS: Deadline to return

distributions
to
retirement
accounts
is
Aug.
31

5. Deadline
to
file
and
pay
heavy
highway
vehicle
use
tax
is
Aug.
31

6. Statutory
Hybrid
Plans
Amended
Determination
Letter
Requests

7. IRS
provides
tax
relief
for
victims

of
Iowa
derecho;
extends
Oct.
15,
other
upcoming
deadlines
to
Dec.
15

8. IRS
provides
tax
relief
for
victims
of
California
wildfires;
Oct.
15
deadline,
other
dates
extended
to
Dec.
15

9. IRS:
50,000
spouses

to
get
catch-
up
Economic
Impact
Payments

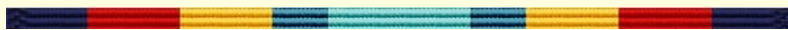
10. Earning
side
income:
Is
it
a
hobby
or
a
business?



Unprecedented Poll Worker Shortage

Healthy elections require poll workers, the majority of whom are over the age of 60. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, election officials are reporting an unprecedented shortage. Without sufficient numbers of poll workers, it is possible that polling locations could have long lines, lack of staff to assist voters, and possible closures of polling locations. The VFW encourages any member, advocate, or supporter, who is healthy and willing, to consider becoming a poll worker for the general election in November. The

[Stanford-MIT Healthy Election Project](#) has partnered with local organizations like Power the Polls, which helps to follow up with applicants, confirm their commitment, and assist them in completing the process. If you sign up through this [special VFW link](#), you will be contacted by Power the Polls, a partner organization, or your local election administrators.



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.



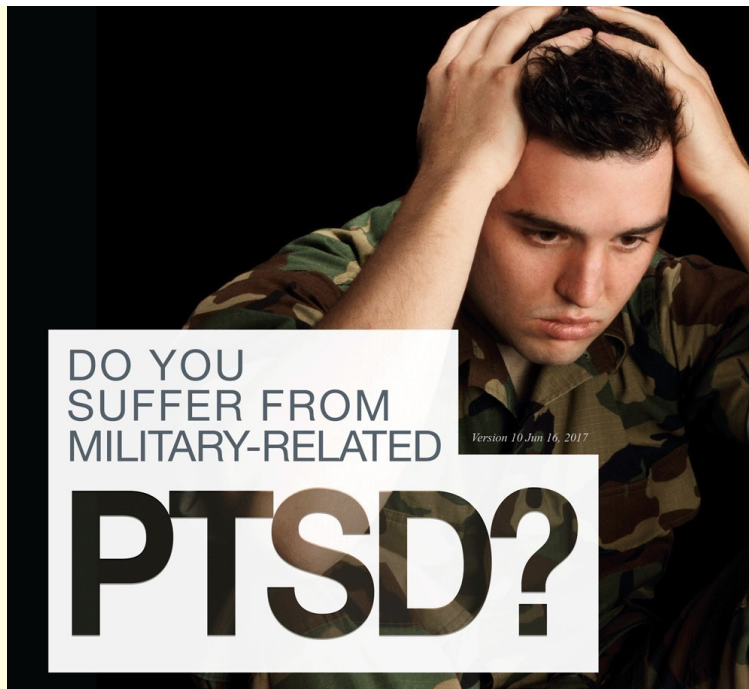
[CLICK HERE TO SUBSCRIBE TO THE VFC NEWSLETTER!](#)





Gulf Coast States Eligible for Emergency Prescription Refills

Tropical Storm Marco and Hurricane Laura made landfall this week on the Gulf Coast. In response, TRICARE added Florida, Alabama, Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Texas, and Georgia to the list of states eligible for emergency prescription refills. You may obtain a prescription refill by bringing your prescription bottle to any TRICARE retail network pharmacy. [Learn more.](#)



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



Military Family Members and Retirees to Receive New ID Cards


Active-duty military family members, retirees and their family members will get new ID cards as they renew or replace their IDs over the next five years. It will be similar to the common access card used by military personnel and DOD civilian personnel, without the chip. Unless your ID card is about to expire, there is no need to rush to get the new card, especially during the COVID-19 pandemic. [Read more.](#)






TRICARE Select Enrollment Fee to Start Jan. 1

DOD announced that TRICARE Select Group A retirees will be required to pay an enrollment fee beginning on Jan. 1, 2021. Congress directed the Defense Health Agency in the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2017 to implement TRICARE Select retiree enrollment fees, but delayed the implementation. Group A is comprised of retirees and their family members if the sponsor's initial enlistment or appointment occurred before Jan. 1, 2018. The enrollment fee is waived for medically retired individuals and their family members, and for survivors of active-duty deaths. During [TRICARE Open Season](#), which will run from Nov. 9 to Dec. 14, beneficiaries must set up an allotment with their regional contractors for the enrollment fee to begin on Jan. 1, 2021. Beneficiaries who do not set up their allotment by the deadline will be unenrolled due to nonpayment, and will have 90 days from the termination date to request reinstatement. [Learn more.](#)



VA working to Ensure Timely Delivery of Outpatient Prescriptions

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) recently announced that approximately 90 percent of their outpatient pharmacy mail delivery is provided by the United States Postal Service (USPS). The agency has detected delivery delays in certain areas of Detroit, parts of New York and New Jersey. The VA has proactively switched from the USPS to the United Parcel Service (UPS) 2nd Day Air delivery for those areas until service returns to normal.



The Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency announced two new identifications and two burial updates for service members who have been missing and unaccounted-for from WWII. Returning home for burial with full military honors are:

Navy Seaman 1st Class Carl S. Johnson, 20, was assigned to the battleship USS West Virginia, which was moored at Ford Island, Pearl Harbor, when the ship was attacked by Japanese aircraft on Dec. 7, 1941. The USS West Virginia sustained multiple torpedo hits, but timely counter-flooding measures taken by the crew prevented it from capsizing, and it came to rest on the shallow harbor floor. The attack on the ship resulted in the deaths of 106 crewmen, including Johnson. Interment services are pending. [Read about Johnson.](#)

Navy Fire Controlman 2nd Class George Gilbert, 20, was assigned to the battleship USS Oklahoma, which was moored at Ford Island, Pearl Harbor, when the ship was attacked by Japanese aircraft on Dec. 7, 1941. The USS Oklahoma sustained multiple torpedo hits, which caused it to quickly capsize. The attack on the ship resulted in the deaths of 429 crewmen, including Gilbert. Interment services are pending. [Read about Gilbert.](#)

Navy Coxswain Layton T. Banks, 20, of Dallas, was assigned to the battleship USS Oklahoma, which was moored at Ford Island, Pearl Harbor, when the ship was attacked by Japanese aircraft on Dec. 7, 1941. The USS Oklahoma sustained multiple torpedo hits, which caused it to quickly capsize. The attack on the

ship resulted in the deaths of 429 crewmen, including Banks. Banks will be buried Oct. 24, 2020, in Plano, Texas. [Read about Banks.](#)

Navy Fireman 1st Class Frank E. Nicoles, 24, of Eau Claire, Wisconsin, was assigned to the battleship USS Oklahoma, which was moored at Ford Island, Pearl Harbor, when the ship was attacked by Japanese aircraft on Dec. 7, 1941. The USS Oklahoma sustained multiple torpedo hits, which caused it to quickly capsize. The attack on the ship resulted in the deaths of 429 crewmen, including Nicoles. Nicoles' family has yet to decide on a funeral date or location. [Read about Nicoles.](#)



Veterans-For-Change, Inc.

Riverside County, CA

Visit our website today

www.Veterans-For-Change.org

Serving those who served!

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



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