



# **Veterans-For-Change Newsletter**

*A Voice of the Veterans*

Week Ending Sunday, January 24, 2021

Volume 12, Issue 04



## **This-N-That**

Good evening Jim,

Sadly, this week hasn't produced much in the way of information for our Military and Veterans.

I just didn't want anyone to think we're not trying, we're not attempting and we're not taking any actions, we are!

We're almost finished compiling the Congressional Fax list so we can re-program our server to be able to fax blast again. Hopefully to be completed this week.

This took priority over adding more documents and links to the website so we can continue to communicate with all 535 members of Congress.

We're also finally catching up on much of the E-Mails we've received over the past two weeks, and finally down to just the last five days.

We've updated the "**TAKE ACTION**" list and it is accurate as of this newsletter. So please, when you get down to that portion of the newsletter, **TAKE ACTION** on all items listed, should maybe take all of 30 minutes tops.

And I'd like to encourage everyone to visit your Congress Person's website, as well as both your Senator's websites and send them a message there too!

Personally, I feel this will be a difficult time in dealing with Congress and the POTUS in getting legislation passed and signed into law, but that doesn't mean we give up, quite the opposite, we need to put the pressure on and keep putting the pressure on all of them. Even if you don't think they listen, if we all keep this up on a weekly basis, forward to fellow Veterans as well as family, and friends of Veterans, we can be successful, we just need to flood their offices and never stop!

I don't know how long it will take before things begin to "calm down" in DC and they will actually get back to taking care of business, but that won't excuse us from not trying with everything we have!

We continue to gain momentum on [MEWE](#), and some of our followers that we'd lost when we migrated from Face Book over to [MEWE](#) are finding us again, and please to rejoin us. And we encourage all of our readers to join us there, links to all our pages are further down in this newsletter.

And I can honestly say that the migration to MEWE was one of the best communications decisions I ever made! While on Face Book for eleven years and being suspended on countless occasions for posting information for our Military and Veterans, and finally in 2018 had been suspended a total of 200+ days during the year, I made the crucial decision to migrate to [MEWE](#).

Since being there not once have we been suspended, censored, not even a slap on the wrist. They've been quite supportive. And any time we've needed to contact Customer Support, we got what we needed, and only one feature we asked for couldn't be accomplished as too many others were using the feature to spam others.

But we are happy with the decision!

And at this time, we're still on [Twitter](#), however, if and when we can locate another platform to use, then we will be moving that account as well.

Freedom of Speech is one of the many rights every single one of you have fought for, and for that I am deeply appreciative and thankful for!

And I'd like to encourage everyone who can to help and support **Military-Veterans Advocacy** go to [www.militaryVeteransadvocacy.org](http://www.militaryVeteransadvocacy.org)

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

Respectfully,

Jim Davis

Founder

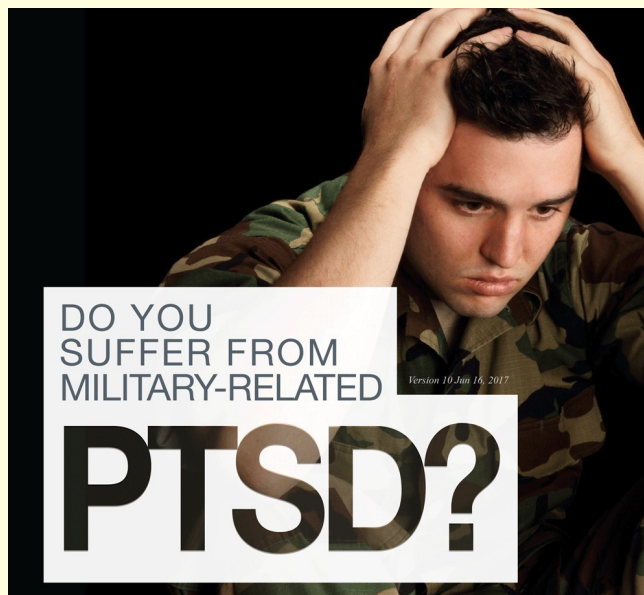
[Jim.Davis@Veterans-For-Change.org](mailto:Jim.Davis@Veterans-For-Change.org)



## **3 Ways to Slow the Spread of COVID-19**

Hope is on the horizon with [vaccination news](#) and the beginning of a new year. But COVID-19 cases and deaths in the U.S. are on the rise. This means we all must continue to take steps to stop the spread of the COVID-19 virus. This is true even after people eventually get vaccinated, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

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



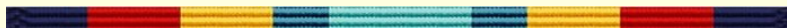
**Veterans Crisis Line:  
1-800-273-8255 & Press 1  
Ntl Call Center for Homeless Vets  
1-877-424-3838**



**2021 Military & Veteran Benefits Survey**

The FRA is conducting a survey to determine which military and veteran's benefits are most important to active duty and Reserve personnel, retirees, veterans and their families. The survey is [available online](#), and asks you to rate a variety of benefits and quality-of-life programs associated with your service to our nation.

The FRA is asking current and former military personnel and your spouses to share your opinions about the programs you value most. Your responses and comments will provide important reference information when we testify before Congress or meet one-on-one with lawmakers and their staff. We also share the results with elected officials on Capitol Hill, key committee staff, and leaders within the Departments of Defense, Homeland Security and Veterans Affairs to ensure these crucial decision-makers understand your enlisted sea service perspective.



[Links to Other Stories](#)

1. North Carolina woman who was oldest living US Marine dies at 107
2. To VA Secretary Nominee Denis McDonough: Here's How We Fix the Broken VA
3. Tens of thousands of Veteran caregivers now eligible for the coronavirus vaccine through VA
4. Tricare fraud 'mastermind' sentenced to 18 years in prison
5. Feds reach settlement with online lender on alleged military overcharges
6. WNY family looking for answers after they say VA Medical Center threw out late Vietnam Veteran's personal belongings
7. Oklahoma City VA to receive first Fisher House in the state
8. Telehealth not an option for most hematology and oncology patients
9. Tech know-how lands her VA job... 35 years ago
10. One Marine's journey to recovery through adaptive sports
11. VA Special Monthly Compensation for Veterans with TBI: Housebound
12. Army to review thousands of discharges of Veterans who suffered from traumas



**President Biden Sworn in as 46th  
President**

Joe Biden took the oath of office for President of the United States in a ceremony dramatically redesigned by the Coronavirus pandemic. Threats of violence were still-simmering in Washington, D.C., which cast a cloud over the celebration of American democracy. His swearing-in at the U.S. Capitol on Wednesday had an unprecedented level of security, with strict physical distancing measures in place as well. More than 200,000 flags were placed on the National Mall, in lieu of the typical crowd of people cheering for their new Commander-in-Chief. President Biden called for unity and an end to the "uncivil war." He asked supporters of former President Trump to give him a chance. After the swearing in ceremony President Biden and Vice President Kamala Harris laid a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknowns in Arlington National Cemetery.

The FRA staff has already had virtual meetings with President Biden's Department of Veterans Affairs and the Department of Defense transition teams and have provided them with the association's 2021 legislative agenda.

In related news, Senator Kamala Harris resigned from the U.S. Senate to be sworn in as Vice President. California Governor Gavin Newsom appointed Alex Padilla, the current California Secretary of State, to



serve as Senator until the 2022 election. Alex Padilla, age 47, is the first Mexican American to represent California in the U. S. Senate. He obtained a mechanical engineering degree from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in 1994 and worked for Hughes Aircraft in California. He was elected to the Los Angeles City Council in 1999 and in 2006, he was elected to the California State Senate. In 2014 he was elected California Secretary of State.



## Veterans-For-Change Web Site

The Veterans-For-Change website has been around since 2009. The looks pretty much stay the same for now, but in the background our new webmaster has been working on a whole new look and feel, a facelift so-to-speak. And we're sincerely hoping to roll out the new website sometime this coming June.

Constant improvement and change are 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 **1,984** hits per day, and downloads average **2,579** per day with a total **7,057,903** 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 us a notification to approve your account. Once received, and we approve, the system will send you an E-Mail letting you know your account has been approved. Be sure to check your junk and spam folders just in case you don't receive it in your In-Box.

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

- Documents Library with over **20,047** documents in 233+ Libraries, added 33 new documents on-line

(Updated: 01/12/21)

- 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)

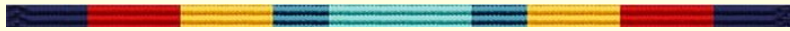
- News (Articles On-Line: **10,169**)

- Polls

- Web Links, more than **7,895**, Added 86 New Links

(Updated: 12/29/20)

If you have a submission for the memorial pages, E-



## **SASC Hearing on Secretary of Defense Nominee**

The Senate Armed Services Committee held a hearing on the nomination of retired Army General Lloyd Austin to serve as Secretary of Defense (SecDef). Austin would need a waiver to lead the Defense Department after leaving active duty four years ago, which is short of the seven years delay required by law. The waiver will require approval by the House and Senate. Jim Mattis, a recently retired four-star Marine general, required the same waiver when Donald Trump picked him to serve as his first defense secretary. Austin would be the first African American to lead the Pentagon. He led the U.S. Central Command until retiring in 2016 and has served in the military since graduating from the U.S. Military Academy in 1975. His appointment has run into bipartisan concern on Capitol Hill, where there are growing concerns about another former General leading the Pentagon in a nation that has a long tradition of civilian control of the military.





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 01/23/21)

1. [H.R. 6027, the Restore Veterans' Compensation Act](#)
2. [H.R. 95, Legislation to Allow Homeless Veterans to Stay With Their Children While Receiving Services](#)
3. [H.R. 303, the Retired Pay Restoration Act](#)
4. [H.R. 553, Military Surviving Spouses Equity Act](#)
5. [H.R. 1527, the Long-Term Care Veterans Choice Act](#)
6. [S 179 and HR 712, VA Medicinal Cannabis Research Act of 2019](#)
7. [H.R. 1200, the Veterans' Compensation Cost-of-Living Adjustment Act of 2019](#)
8. [S. 785, the Commander John Scott Hannon](#)

## Veterans Mental Health Care Improvement Act

9. H.R. 96, to Provide Dental Care for All Veterans Enrolled in Veterans Health Care

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

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

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

13. S. 2950, the Veterans Burn Pits Exposure Recognition Act

14. Ask Your Member of Congress to Support Tester/Harder Amendment in the Fy2021 National Defense Author

15. Oppose TRICARE fee Increases



### **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)**



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."**



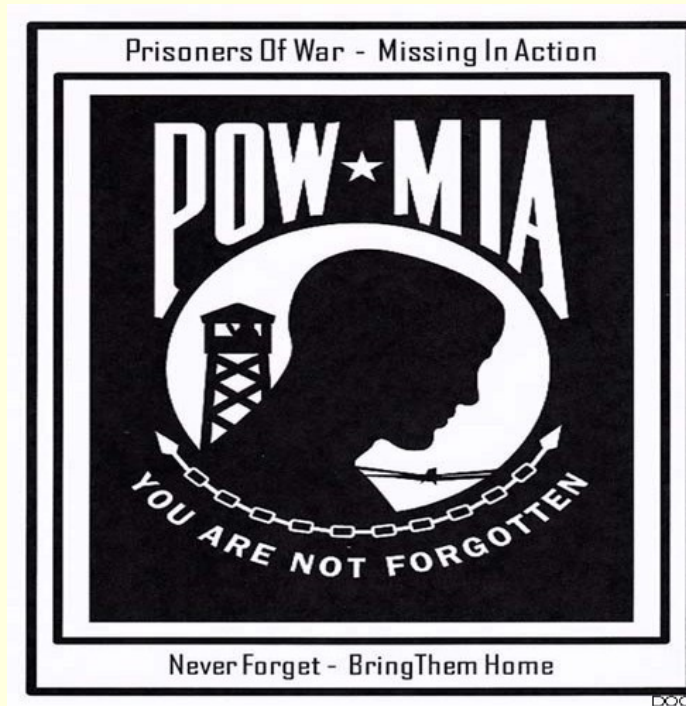
## **Office of Inspector General**

1. **Chemical Security: Overlapping Programs Could Better Collaborate to Share Information and Identify Potential Security Gaps**
  2. **Health Care Funding: Federal Obligations to and Funds Received by Certain Organizations Involved in Health-Related Services, 2016 through 2018**
  3. **Rural Hospital Closures: Affected Residents Had Reduced Access to Health Care Services**
- 





*CLICK HERE TO FOLLOW US ON TWITTER !*



1. Door County Coffee & Tea Co Issues Allergy Alert on Undeclared Milk and Soy in French Vanilla Flavored Cappuccino Single Serve Cups
2. Frito-Lay Issues Voluntary Allergy Alert on Undeclared Milk in Small Number of Ruffles Original Potato Chips
3. Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) (01/22/21)
4. FDA Approves First Extended-Release, Injectable Drug Regimen for Adults Living with HIV
5. FDA Drug Shortages
6. Unleashing the Power of FDA Data to Support COVID-19 Vaccine Distribution to Food and Agriculture Workers
7. FDA Marks Historic Public Health Milestone with Finalization of Two Key Rules for Companies Seeking to Market New Tobacco Products



**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!](#)*



**Your actions**  
**could save a life.**

Showing you care can make a big difference to someone in crisis.

VeteransCrisisLine.net

 **Veterans  
Crisis Line**  
1-800-273-8255 PRESS 1



**SOUND OFF!**  
SHARE YOUR STORIES AND COMMENTS WITH US:

We know most Veterans have had issues both current and in the past with the Veterans Affairs, and we'd really like to hear from you!

So now is your chance to voice your concerns, opinions, problems, compliments, advice, etc., anything you'd like to have heard.

We will be creating another category in the "NEWS" section of the website called "SOUND OFF" and instead of us continually sending this type of information in fax blasts to all 535 members of Congress, we will be adding to the website as we

know many members of Congress do watch us, and this makes it a lot easier for us to track the number of people reading the issues.

In addition, it might even open the door for your fellow Veteran's to see they're not alone, and they too might voice their concerns.

Your story can be as long or as short as you'd like to express what you have to say, we can post as anonymous, or if you want we can post your name to the article, just tell us how you would like for us to post your story and we will adhere to your request.

We only ask that you keep it clean from foul language, and we will edit only to correct grammar, and if need be to edit out any foul language as that is an almost immediate cut off from Congress to pay attention.

Send your story to [JIM.DAVIS@VETERANS-FOR-CHANGE.org](mailto:JIM.DAVIS@VETERANS-FOR-CHANGE.org) and we will get it posted as quickly as we can. And if you have a title for your story that would be fantastic, as we will be providing the story title and link to Congress.





**Veterans-For-Change, Inc.**

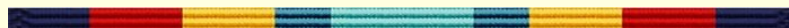
Riverside County, CA

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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