



Veterans-For-Change Newsletter

A Voice of the Veterans

Week Ending Sunday, February 13, 2022

Volume 13, Issue 07



This-N-That

Good evening Jim,

This week, I've cleaned up the TAKE ACTION list and removed four items which had passed, and I've added one new piece of legislation to the list.

I know it takes a small chunk of time, roughly 30-40 minutes to complete all of them, but I do urge you to take action on each one, we need to really put pressure on Congress to work on these items and get them to the floor for a vote and passage. Thousands of Veterans and their families are all counting on us to help them.

There has been quite a chunk of new pieces of information we received this past week which are all noted below in this

newsletter. Some pieces might help you; some might just provide information to retain for another time, but we do try and pass along everything we get without making this hundreds of pages.

Also want to let you know there may not be a newsletter this coming weekend, 02/20/22 as I am scheduled for major surgery on Wednesday and I'm not sure if I will be able to handle sitting in my chair for 14-16 hours to assemble one. But I will hope for the best and be able to produce one.

We still have two nationwide issues which are important to me and I hope you as well. The first being our Homeless Veteran population which is approximately 1 million, regardless of what the VA says, we get our numbers from the various Health and Human Services throughout the country.

My biggest concern is that our VA Leadership has said a few times they are working on it, but I'd like to know how they are working on it, I don't see any new construction of mini homes, I haven't seen any plans for mini homes, all I see and hear is a lot of talk.

I am currently working on new plans for developments and will again try to submit those to the VA and see if I can spark any interest or advancement in solving the problem.

The second problem we have on a nationwide level are Veteran Suicides. The only thing so far I've seen and some will disagree with me, but there has been legislation presented which would allow Veterans at risk to retain their weapons.

I agree with this move because in a way it's a security blanket so to speak. Yes a Veteran could use it against themselves,

and that is serious risk, but I know having sat with two Veterans over the years talking to them, both held their weapon like a child holds a stuffed animal, like a security blanket.

Neither of the Vets I sat and talked with ever made a move or motion to harm themselves. One in fact was comfortable enough sitting and talking with me that he took his weapon apart, cleaned it and reassembled it and still made no action like he was going to hurt himself.

I know these are isolated incidents, but they both just like you had weapons to protect and defend themselves and their brothers and sisters in harms way. They've earned the right to keep their weapon.

I really would like to hear from our readers their take on both situations. Suggestions, advice, what ever your opinion is I would like to hear it.

If you've not visited our website, www.veterans-for-change.org or not visited in a while, please be sure to check often for updates on documents, web links, etc., we are a bit slow, but are moving as fast as we can, yet not over-loading to put more work on our Webmaster when we get to the transition into the new look.

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



Chillicothe VA team gets life-saving naloxone where it's needed

A VA Chillicothe team personally distributed naloxone kits, meant to quickly reverse the effects of an opioid overdose, to high-risk Veterans. One Veteran called back to ask for another kit because he had used the first one to save his neighbor's life.

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VIEW FROM THE BRIDGE

Chairman's Remarks

Another busy month is behind us. My wife says I work longer now than when I was in the Navy. While this job does not let me enjoy sunsets at sea, it has its own benefits. Shepherding this organization through the pandemic has left me with a lot of personal satisfaction.



We say good-bye to Susie Belanger but not quite yet. For personal reasons Jackie Bloom decided to remain as Deputy Legislative Director but to turn down the top spot. Jackie has done a fantastic job as Susie's Deputy, and we know she will continue to do so. Ernest Dillard, of Indiana, has volunteered to take on the role of Legislative Director. Ernest served in both

the Marines and Army and retired as a senior NCO. He has been involved with several Veterans Service Organizations and we are confident that he will be able to fill Susie's very big shoes. I have assured him that high heels are not required on trips to Capitol Hill.

I also want to introduce Chandra Klein who was hired as the MVA™ Administrative Assistant. Chandra has extensive experience as a legal secretary and is quickly coming up to speed. She will take some of the pressure off Super-Woman Robin who has been doing the work of 3-4 people while keeping me under control. The latter is a full-time job in itself.

I am currently in Washington, DC for meetings with our allies from the Association of the United States Navy and the staff directors for the Senate Veterans Affairs Committee. On the top of the list will be support for the new burn pit bills. HR 3368 the Guam/American Samoa/Johnston Island bill, HR 2269 the Thailand bill, and HR 5026 the Panama bill. You can help me make the case by using the pre-written e-mails available on our Bill of the Week section of our web site.

<https://www.militaryveteransadvocacy.org/bill-of-the-week.html>.

If you have not done it scroll down and check out all of our Bills of the Week. You can send an email at any time. Many folks complain that when they send an email, they get a canned response or no response at all. That's really ok. The staffs keep track of all of these, and a summary is presented to the Member or Senator. Most staffs have only one person to answer the mail so canned responses are necessary for survival. But the important thing is that the summary gets to the boss. Numbers matter. Please help us keep our bills on the front burner.

Another place that numbers matter is in the membership. We have probably 20,000 followers on our various Facebook pages but only about 1600 paid members. To qualify as a Veteran Service Organization, we need to have more than 2000 sustained members. This gives us a more reliable seat at the table. Looks like we will be turned down on our request to testify at the VSO briefings before the joint House-Senate Veterans Affairs Committee. Why? Well, we are not a VSO. I am trying to fight that decision, but numbers do matter. Membership is only \$25.00 per year and life memberships are available

https://www.militaryveteransadvocacy.org/store/c2/yearly_dues. If you really cannot afford the \$25.00 contact robin.barr@madvocacy.org.

and ask for a gift membership. If you are a widow or widower of a veteran who dies from a service-connected illness, please apply for a free life membership.

Also, if you want to support us financially at no cost to you, please join Amazon Smile. Bookmark <http://smile.amazon.com/ch/38-3890520> and you can designate MVA™ to receive ½% of everything you spend. This is no cost to you! It is a donation from Amazon.

Chief of Staff Mike Kvintus and I will be in Alexandria, VA the week of Feb 21 to set up a booth at the National Association of State Directors of Veterans Affairs. This gives us significant visibility and we hope to increase our membership and the support of the State Directors.

Until next month, stay steady on course.

John B. Wells

Commander, USN (ret)

Chairman



Military Veterans Advocacy



Military Veterans Advocacy is offering some free memberships for those who are struggling to get their claims through, are having financial difficulties. Annual dues are \$25.00 per year. Our organization includes special sections, Blue Water Navy, Veterans of Southeast Asia, Central Pacific Islands, Veterans of Panama Canal Zone, and Okinawa. We have gift members available which can be paid by your fellow brother or sister Veterans. Gift members are kept confidential. Click [HERE](#) and help a Veteran.

You may contact Robin Barr at robin.barr@mvadvocacy.org



VA helps Marine come home

When fire left Marine Veteran Mathew Robie without a place to live, the team at VA Palo Alto helped him relocate to stable housing. "I've told quite a few friends to talk to the representatives at VA, wherever they're at," he says. "It's worth it."

[Read More](#)



LEGISLATION

We are working on a replacement for my position. Jackie and I are working on the 3 major bills that we are pushing, HR5026, HR3368, and HR 2269. We are contacting all congressman.

Below is a press release from Sen Tester on the burn pit issue.

MISSOULA - While christening the new VA outpatient clinic in Missoula last week, Sen. Jon Tester (D-MT) said he'll now turn his focus back to toxic exposure and a bill that would grant greater access to care to millions of exposed troops.

Tester, chair of the Senate Veterans' Affairs Committee, introduced the Compensation and Overdue Support for Troops, or COST of War Act, last summer. While the bill enjoys bipartisan support, it hasn't yet passed.

"The bill we're working on – I was hoping it would have been passed by now – would give the VA the ability to make the diagnosis when somebody was impacted by toxic exposure," Tester said. "That bill is going to cost some money. But in the end, it was an exposure they wouldn't have been exposed to if they hadn't gone".

No veterans related bills passed Congress in January. Two MVA™ supported bills, HR 4673, the EVEST Act and HR 1836, the Guard and Reserve Parity Act passed the House of Representatives.

Senator Jon Tester has introduced S 3541 which will:

- Expand the period of health care eligibility for combat

veterans who served after September 11, 2001, from five years following discharge to ten years;

- Provide a one-year open enrollment period for any post-9/11 combat veteran who is more than 10 years from separation;
- Establish an outreach plan to contact veterans who did not enroll during their initial period of enhanced eligibility;
- Direct the VA to incorporate a clinical screening regarding a veteran's potential exposures and symptoms commonly associated with toxic substances;
- Mandate toxic exposure-related education and training for health care and benefits personnel at VA; and
- Strengthen federal research on toxic exposures.

Does this bill provide adequate coverage? No, it does not. But it is a strong step forward and may reflect the best we can do in 2022 in this economy. It will not solve the problem, but it will make it better. Accordantly MVA™ supports this bill.



Your actions

could save a life.

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

VeteransCrisisLine.net



Pinpointing prostate cancer

At Truman Veterans' Hospital in Missouri, researchers are testing a new drug to see if it more accurately shows how far prostate cancer has spread, which could lead to better treatment.

[Read More](#)



New Native American VA Advisory Committee Holds First Meeting

The newly created committee is one of 27 VA advisory committees that advises VA Secretary Denis McDonough. Called the Advisory Committee on Tribal and Indian Affairs, the new committee, consisting of 15 Native American tribal members, will advise the secretary on everything from COVID-19 efforts to homelessness.

“My commitment to you was and is clear, that VA will not make decisions about you without you,” said McDonough.

“The work of this committee will be essential in helping us to find and to develop better and more innovative ways to serve native veterans, their families, caregivers and survivors,” he said.

VA provides health care services to over 140,000 Native American veterans. But many of these veterans have experienced difficulty receiving care during the pandemic.

“There are many hard truths that need to be addressed, and I

will be here for my people addressing those truths on their behalf,” said committee member Reyn Kaupiko, a Navy veteran and Native Hawaiian.

Native American veterans have faced decades of challenges after exiting military service from the federal government.

The agency’s new reliance on technology to deliver benefits and health care services may seem great to millennials, but it risks alienating older veterans living on reservations if the agency does not enhance its outreach.

While VA administrators still struggle to apprehend cultural differences, the new Tribal and Indian Affairs committee has an important role to play.

How It Was Created

The new committee was created by Congress in 2020 after decades of advocates complaining that VA was not doing enough to reach Native American veterans living on tribal lands.

Senators Comment on New Committee

Senator Krysten Sinema co-sponsored S 524, Department of Veterans Affairs Tribal Advisory Committee Act, the Bill for the committee’s creation.

“Native Americans serve our military at a higher rate than any other ethnic group,” said Sinema.

“Native Americans serve our nation in uniform at the highest rates, and it’s critical these veterans are well represented at VA and empowered to shape department policy to meet the needs of all Native veterans,” said Sen. Jon Tester, chairman

of the Senate Veterans' Affairs Committee and former chairman of the Senate Indian Affairs Committee.

Sen. Jerry Moran, the top Republican on the Senate Veterans' Affairs Committee, called the committee "an enduring forum to learn more from these veterans and tribal leaders on how VA and Congress can best serve this veteran population."



VA Warns Thousands of Vets of Infection Risk from Improperly Cleaned Equipment

As reported February 10 by Patricia Kime for Military Times, roughly 4,000 patients at a Georgia VA hospital have been advised to get tested for several blood-borne viruses following concerns over the facility's sterilization procedures for reusable medical devices. Veterans at the Carl Vinson VA Medical Center are being notified that they need to be tested for hepatitis B, hepatitis C, and HIV. The medical center halted all medical procedures and operations from Jan. 12-14 over concerns about the sterilization process for reusable medical devices. But any patient who had a dentistry, endoscopy, urology, podiatry, optometry, or surgical procedure from Jan. 3-27 are being urged to get tested.

[Read More](#)



Know the Warning Signs

It Matters.

Sometimes, a crisis may involve thoughts of suicide. Learn to recognize these warning signs:

- Hopelessness, feeling like there's no way out
- Anxiety, agitation, sleeplessness, or mood swings
- Feeling like there is no reason to live
- Rage or anger
- Engaging in risky activities without thinking
- Increasing alcohol or drug abuse
- Withdrawing from family and friends

The presence of the following signs requires immediate attention:

- Thinking about hurting or killing themselves
- Looking for ways to kill themselves
- Talking about death, dying or suicide
- Self-destructive behavior such as drug abuse

..... Confidential chat at [VeteransCrisisLine.net](https://www.VeteransCrisisLine.net) or text to **838255**



Eastern OK VA faces down Omicron

In one month, the hospital went from 136 positive tests to 1,052. "We've been busy before, but not like this. We would have 20-30 cars lined up at 7:30 in the morning."

[Read More](#)



Military-Veterans Advocacy®

Goals and Objectives 2022

The MVA™ Board of Directors has adopted the following goals and objectives for 2022:

- Herbicide relief for Guam, American Samoa, and Johnston Island
- Herbicide relief for Thailand, Laos, and Cambodia
- Expand herbicide relief for Blue Water Navy to the entire Theater of Combat
- Herbicide relief for Airspace over Vietnam
- Herbicide relief for Panama
- Herbicide relief for Okinawa
- Fix locations for submarines during the Vietnam War
- Require informed consent for addictive and potentially hazardous or dangerous medical health medication drugs administered by the VA
- Conduct one or more online seminars/CLE on veterans law
- Qualify as a Veterans Service Organization
- Relief for Atomic Cleanup Veterans
- Relief for Burn Pit Victims
- Tribal/Native American Outreach



**White House Pushing to Get More Veterans into
Trucking Industry**

As reported February 7 by Leo Shane III for Military Times, the White House's latest idea to fix the nation's supply chain issues is to put more veterans in trucks. Officials from the DoD, VA, Labor, and Transportation in coming days will be touting an array of existing programs to help separating service members get careers in the trucking industry. The effort is expected to start Monday, with an announcement from the White House highlighting the programs.

[Read More](#)



[Links to Other Stories](#)

- 1) [New England Compounding Center's National Sales Director Sentenced](#)
- 2) [World War II dog tag returned to Hall of Famer's family](#)
- 3) [Liberals erupt after Rep. Cawthorn cleans gun during Veterans affairs hearing](#)
- 4) [Texas 98-year-old WWII Veteran receives high school diploma](#)
- 5) [Couple Restoring Old House Find WW2 Scrapbook in the Trash Revealing Tragic Love Story](#)
- 6) [VA needs more money to keep pace with Veterans' needs, advisory group warns](#)
- 7) [Air Force Vet who had COVID twice denied vital kidney transplant in NC over not getting vaccine, he says](#)
- 8) [Veteran's son sues funeral home after 'horror' of wrong man buried in father's grave](#)



Veterans Looking for Support

No matter how you served or what you've experienced in military or civilian life, you may be facing challenges that affect your health, relationships, and life overall — but you don't have to face them alone. VA is here to provide and connect you with resources and support to confront and manage any mental health challenge.

[Take the Next Step](#)



112 Reps Request Briefing on NPRC's Plan to Reduce Vets Request Backlog

Rep. Mike Bost (Ill.), the Ranking Member of the House Veterans' Affairs Committee, Rep. Cliff Bentz (Or.), and Rep. Fred Keller (Pa.), released a statement after joining over one hundred of their colleagues in sending a letter to the Director of the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) calling for the National Personnel Records Center (NPRC) to report to Congress on their plan to reduce the backlog of veterans' record requests.

"Repeatedly I have been calling for the White House to develop a plan to fully staff the NPRC to chip away at the backlog of veterans' record requests," said Ranking Member Bost. "While I am encouraged that the NPRC has made strides since this time last year for records requests originating from VA, veterans are still waiting weeks to months on end for their own records requests."

The NPRC has not maintained full capacity, in-person, employment (only 25 percent) since March 2020. Since then, many veterans have not received records they need to demonstrate their military service and verify their service-connected conditions. As a result, these individuals cannot receive the medical care, disability compensation, and retirement pay they have earned. In some instances, the NPRC is the only agency that can provide veterans with these records.

The most glaring discrepancy is the neglect of the NPRC in processing critical request for copies of DD-214 forms, which are essential for an abundance of critical services. For example, some veterans have been unable to obtain VA home

loans due to long delays in receiving their DD-214s. More significantly, veterans have been denied their appropriate retirement pay levels due to not being able to demonstrate their military service for federal retirement consideration.

The letter requests that the NPRC go back to full capacity and inform Congress on plans to operate in a timely manner. The NPRC is responsible for an array of veteran services. For some veterans, there may not be an alternative service for accessing military records required by various federal and civilian agencies. Additionally, veterans and their families often request replacements for military service medals when they bury a loved one and find that the medal has become tarnished, or the medal was destroyed or lost. Normally, this simple request is filled within a reasonable timeframe. Now, veterans may wait up to 18 months. Also, veterans have reported difficulty in receiving documents needed to obtain VA medical care or disability compensation. As the NPRC continues to cite health precautions for not being fully staffed, many veterans suffer from health issues that need immediate attention.



DHS, VA Launch Online Services for Noncitizen Servicemembers, Vets, and Families

On February 7, the Department of Homeland Security, in partnership with the VA and DoD, launched two new resources to support our nation's noncitizen service members, veterans, and their families. Through its Immigrant Military Members and Veterans Initiative, DHS will host a one-stop online center with relevant federal resources. DHS has also created a portal for veterans who need assistance in applying to return to the U.S. or accessing VA benefits to which they may be entitled.

[Read More](#)



Suicide Prevention Resources for Military and Veterans

Military & Veterans Crisis Line

1-800-273-8255, Press 1
Text 838255, 24/7

Vets 4 Warriors 855-838-8255

InTransition 1-800-424-7877

Office of Warrior Care Policy

warriorcare.dodlive.mil/

Military One Source 1-800-342-9647

Tragedy Assistance Program for Survivors [TAPS] 1-800-959-8277



Resources for Family and Friends

As a family member or friend of a Veteran with mental health challenges, you can play an important role in providing support for their recovery. Letting a Veteran know you're there for them can help start a conversation. Explore robust resources from VA specifically for Veterans' families and friends.

[Learn More](#)



Gulf War Illness Update

The Department of Veterans Affairs has amended its adjudication regulations regarding compensation for disabilities resulting from undiagnosed illnesses suffered by veterans who served in the Persian Gulf War. This amendment is necessary to extend the presumptive period for qualifying chronic disabilities resulting from undiagnosed illnesses that must become manifest to a compensable degree in order for entitlement for disability compensation to be established. The intended effect of this amendment is to provide consistency in VA adjudication policy and preserve certain rights afforded to Persian Gulf War veterans and to ensure fairness for current and future Persian Gulf War veterans. Without this amendment the Presumptives period would have expired on December 31, 2021. Under the amendment, the presumptive period is extended by five years to December 31, 2026. See Federal Register Vol. 87, No. 23 6038-39. (Thursday, February 3, 2022).



COVID-19 Resources

Maintaining and enhancing your mental health and well-being during the COVID-19 pandemic is important. Visit the page below for up-to-date information and resources.

[Find Resources](#)



VA Pensions

Did you know VA's Veterans Pension program provides monthly payments to wartime Veterans over the age of 65 with a limited income and net worth? Service connection is not required but if you are under 65 and have a permanent and total disability, you may also be eligible. Learn how to apply for a VA pension click [HERE](#).



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 02/12/21)

Please note, we've added 1 new item to the **TAKE ACTION** list.

- 1) [HR 1014 - Furnish Hyperbaric Oxygen Therapy \(HBOT\) to a Veteran who has a Traumatic Brain Injury \(TBI\) or Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder \(PTS\)](#)
- 2) [HR 109 will establish an advisory committee on the implementation by the DVA of an electronic health record](#)
- 3) [Concurrent Receipt Legislation Introduced](#)
- 4) [Expand Concurrent Receipt](#)
- 5) [H.R. 333, Disabled Veterans Tax Termination Act](#)
- 6) [H.R. 344, Support the Women Veterans TRUST Act](#)
- 7) [H.R. 914, the Dental Care for Veterans Act](#)
- 8) [Military Retiree Survivor Comfort Act](#)
- 9) [S. 134/H.R. 637, the Veterans Economic Recovery Act of 2021](#)
- 10) [S. 437, Take Action for Veterans Exposed to Burn Pits](#)
- 11) [S. 89, Ensuring Survivors Benefits during COVID-19 Act of 2021](#)
- 12) [STOP TRICARE Fee Increases](#)
- 13) [Support Bills to Expand Coverage for ChampVA and TRICARE Young Adults](#)
- 14) [Veterans Economic Recovery Act Introduced](#)
- 15) [H.R. 855, the Veterans Expedited TSA Screening \(VETS\) Safe Travel Act](#)
- 16) [HR 1355 and S 454. These companion bills will provide health care and benefits to Veterans who were exposed to toxic substances while serving as members of the Armed Forces at Karshi Khanabad Air Base, Uzbekistan.](#)

- 17) Support Repeal of TRICARE Select Enrollment Fee
- 18) HR 1585 & S 565- Provide for the treatment of Vets who participated in the cleanup of Enewetak Atoll as Radiation Exposed
- 19) Please Support S. 344, the Major Richard Star Act
- 20) Support the Military Retiree Survivor Comfort Act
- 21) S. 810 & H.R. 1972, the Fair Care for Vietnam Veterans Act of 2021
- 22) HR 109 Establish an Advisory Committee on Implementation by the DVA of an electronic health record
- 23) HR 2372 and S 952 will Provide for Presumption of Service Connection for certain diseases associated with exposure to toxins
- 24) Please Ask you Senator to support S.952 the Warfighters Act
- 25) Support Improving VA Homelessness Program
- 26) S. 976, Caring for Survivors Act of 2021
- 27) H.R. 303, the Retired Pay Restoration Act
- 28) H.R. 912, American Indian and Alaska Native Veterans Mental Health Act
- 29) S. 976, the Caring for Survivors Act of 2021
- 30) HR 2269 and S 657 cover herbicide exposure in Thailand
- 31) Bipartisan Bill Introduced to Help Military Survivors
- 32) Legislation asks for Study of Involuntary Discharges for Women
- 33) H.R. 2436, the Veterans Burn Pit Exposure Recognition Act
- 34) H.R. 958—the Protecting Moms Who Served Act
- 35) HR 2127 and S 927, the TEAM bills Veterans Exposed to Toxic Substances
- 36) Ask your Senator to Support S.1520 Military Justice Improvement Act
- 37) Ask your member to support S.810 and H.R. 1972 The Fair

Care for Vietnam Veterans Act of 2021

- 38) Ask your member and senator to support HR 2580 and S 1151 to provide for a presumption of service connected disability for certain Veterans who served in Palomares, Spain, and for other purposes
- 39) Ask your Senator to Support S.1520 Military Justice Improvement Act
- 40) HR 855, VETS Safe Travel Act
- 41) HR 3368, the Guam, American Samoa, and Johnston Island bill
- 42) H.R. 2521, Delivering Optimally Urgent Labor Access (DOULA) for Veterans Affairs Act of 2021
- 43) H.R. 1273, the Vietnam Veterans Liver Fluke Cancer Study Act
- 44) H.R. 2968, the Military and Veteran Student Loan Relief Act
- 45) H.R. 845, the VA Billing Accountability Act
- 46) Comprehensive Toxic Exposure Bill Introduced in House
- 47) HR 303 and S 1147 The Retired Pay Restoration Act
- 48) Ask Your Legislators to Support Concurrent Receipt Reform HR-1282
- 49) HR 1656 TREAT PTSD Act
- 50) S. 1664, the Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) Processing Claims Improvement
- 51) H.R. 2724 — VA Peer Support Enhancement for MST Survivors Act
- 52) Please Support H.R. 3452 —Veterans Preventative Health Coverage Fairness Act
- 53) HR 2192, The Camp Lejeune Justice Act of 2021
- 54) HR 5026, The Panama Canal Zone Veterans Act of 2021
- 55) HR 3368, HR 5026, HR 2269, S 657 are all Toxic Exposure Bills that need special attention and more pressure to get passed!

- 56) H.R. 4627, Veterans' Culturally Competent Care Act of 2021
- 57) S. 2172, Building Solutions for Veterans Experiencing Homelessness
- 58) H.R. 4571, the SERVICE Act of 2021
- 59) H.R. 4732, Protect Individual Unemployability Benefit for All Disabled
- 60) S. 1937, the Delivering Optimally Urgent Labor Access (DOULA) for Veterans Act of 2021
- 61) S. 2283 and H.R. 5073—the Crisis Hotline REACH for Veterans Act
- 62) HR 852 and S 221, United States - Israel PTSD Collaborative Research Act
- 63) Ask Congress to Preserve Arlington National Cemetery
- 64) HR 4949 and S 692, the Hello Girls Congressional Gold Medal Act of 2021
- 65) HR 2963, the VOW to Hire Heroes Extension Act of 2021
- 66) S 1970, The Clean Water for Military Families Act
- 67) Support S. 1198/H.R. 2819—the Solid Start Act of 2021
- 68) H.R. 3402/S. 976—Caring for Survivors Act of 2021
- 69) HR 3537 and S 1813, Accelerating Access to Critical Therapies for ALS Act
- 70) S. 2386/H.R. 4575, the Veteran Peer Specialist Act
- 71) H.R. 5721—the VIPER Act
- 72) H.R. 5607, Justice for ALS Veterans Act
- 73) HR 2601 and S 1188, SFC Heath Robinson Burn Pit Transparency Act
- 74) S. 3017, Veterans Dental Care Eligibility Expansion and Enhancement Act
- 75) H.R. 4794 and S. 2533, the Making Advances in Mammography and Medical Options (MAMMO) for Veterans Act
- 76) HR 1361 and S 444, AUTO for Veterans Act

- 77) H.R. 4880 and S. 2720, the Veterans' Prostate Cancer Treatment and Research Act
- 78) HR 2800, the WINGMAN Act
- 79) H.R. 5944, Veterans Administration Backlog Accountability Act of 2021
- 80) HR 3400, VA Emergency Transportation Act
- 81) HR 2992, TBI and PTSD Law Enforcement Training Act
- 82) HR 6260, the Casualty Assistance Reform Act of 2021
- 83) H.R. 6064, VA Compensation and Pension exams for claims related to military sexual trauma
- 84) H.R. 5819, Autonomy for Disabled Veterans Act
- 85) HR 3596, the Lawrence J. Hackett, Jr. Vietnam Veterans Agent Orange Fairness Act
- 86) H.R. 2327 – to Remove Delimiting Dates for Survivors and Dependents' Educational Assistance
- 87) S. 2513/H.R. 4772, Improved VA Clothing Allowance Benefit for Disabled Veterans
- 88) S. 3293, the Post 9-11 Veterans Mental Health Care Act of 2021
- 89) HR 6402 and S 1725, will grant a Federal charter to the National American Indian Veterans, Incorporated



Anxiety

It is natural to feel worried or anxious from time to time about various things, like that work presentation, your growing to-do list, or a relationship. But when persistent worries start affecting your activities, relationships, sleep, or work, it may be time to do something about it.

[Find Resources](#)



BLUE WATER NAVY ASSOCIATION™

I need to bring up Membership. Here we are in the Second month of the Year and we only have about $\frac{1}{3}$ of last year's Members renewing. I have to ask, aren't we doing enough for you? Don't you want to help your fellow Blue Water Navy Veterans? I hope it's not because you have already received yours so there is no reason to stay a Member, if that is the case, that is sad. There is so much more to do to help your fellow Veterans.

I want to remind everyone that we have the Bill of the Week. We pick these because of how important they are to helping Veterans. It only takes a minute for you to fill it out and send it, you don't even have to think about the email, it is already written BUT you can always modify it. I was sad to see the amount of people that filled out the form for the HR 5944 Bill. Here is a bill that will direct the Inspector General of the Department of Veterans Affairs to submit to Congress a report on the backlog of disability compensation claims submitted to the Secretary of Veterans Affairs. The VA backlog has always been a source of angst within the veterans' community. How many times have you seen "delay, deny until they die" written

on these Facebook Pages or other pages? Gee here is something that may make the VA justify why that is happening and not many people want to lift a figure to do something about it or just give their opinion. Being a BWN Veteran you have to know that sitting back and letting everyone else do the work does nothing. We have proved that with HR299. So let's start filling out those BOW forms and letting them know our feelings.

Mike Yates

Director, Blue Water Navy

Military-Veterans Advocacy, Inc. ®



SUICIDE WARNING SIGNS

TALK:

- Killing themselves
- Feeling hopeless
- Having no reason to live
- Being a burden to others
- Feeling trapped
- Unbearable pain



BEHAVIOR:

- Increased use of alcohol or drugs
- Looking for a way to end their lives
- Withdrawing from activities
- Isolating from people
- Sleeping too much or too little
- Visiting or calling people to say goodbye
- Giving away possessions
- Aggression
- Fatigue

MOOD:

- Depression
- Anxiety
- Loss of interest
- Irritability
- Humiliation/Shame
- Agitation/Anger
- Relief/Sudden Improvement



Women Helping Women

A new video from [Make the Connection](#) features four women Veterans who explain how group therapy with their sisters in arms led them to better mental health.

[Read Their Stories](#)



VETERANS OF PANAMA CANAL ZONE

In the news... We have just recently sent a follow-up letter to the VA Secretary concerning our Rulemaking Request. We await a reply. Please see the latest under Projects/Vets of Panama. <https://www.militaryveteransadvocacy.org/vets-of-panama.html>

We now have 8 cosponsors for H.R. 5026, Panama Canal Zone Veterans Act of 2021. We still have a lot of work to do! If you google H.R. 5026 (117) you can see if your representative has signed on to our Panama bill.

Claims... If you have a disease on the VA list and don't have a claim submitted, reach out to me to see how to proceed. Some are winning individually. It is a difficult road, but not impossible.

Membership... Thank you to all who continue to support our push to get Panama recognized as a place where dioxin was used.

Those who have chosen to not support us for 2022, I am sorry to see you go. We need member support to continue our work. Perhaps you will choose to come back in future years.

I urge all current members to invite a friend and continue to support the Military-Veterans Advocacy™ and I thank you for doing so. Together we are changing lives.

Donna Torno
Director, Veterans of Panama Canal Zone
Military-Veterans Advocacy, Inc. ®



**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



**Treat Your Depression with Evidence-Based
Therapy**

Evidence-based therapies (EBTs) have been shown to improve a variety of mental health conditions — including depression — and overall well-being. These treatments are tailored to each Veteran's needs, priorities, values, preferences, and goals for therapy. EBTs often work quickly and effectively, sometimes within a few weeks or months. Work with your VA provider to choose the treatment options that work best for you.

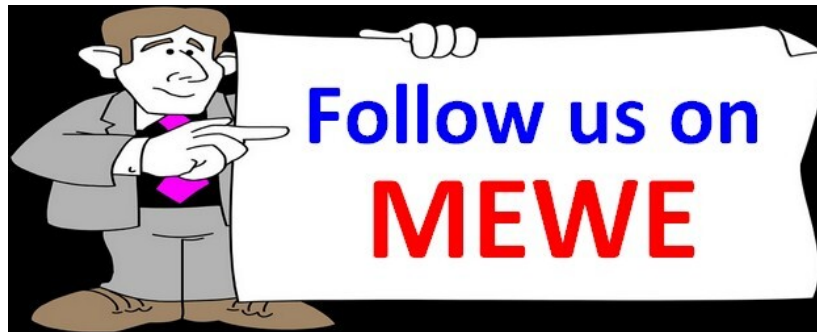
[Learn More](#)



MVA Marketplace

As the pandemic lingers, masks are still required in many venues throughout the United States. Promote Military-Veterans Advocacy® while conforming with State and local mandates. MVA™ now offers designer masks for sale at the Marketplace. Please check out all of our products.

[Click Here](#)



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](#)

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[{USAVET} SUPPORTING GOD & ALL WHO SERVED OUR GREAT NATION](#)

[AMERICANS FOR SOVEREIGNTY](#)



Better Sleep Can Help Veterans With PTSD

By addressing sleep disturbances alongside PTSD treatment, Veterans with PTSD are likely to see better results and have a better quality of life. Speak with your VA care team if you have PTSD to develop an effective treatment plan that addresses both sleep and PTSD issues.

[Read the Blog Post](#)



FRA Presents Senator Tester with Pinnacle Award

The FRA National President James Campbell (Branch 40) presented the 2021 Pinnacle award to Sen. Jon Tester (Mont.). Due to pandemic restrictions and the FRA National Board of Directors scheduled to meet when Congress is not in session, the award was presented to the Tester in his Senate office on Capitol Hill. NED Chris Slawinski, DLP John Davis and ADLP Theo Lawson attended the award presentation.

In the past session of Congress (116th 2019-2020) Tester successfully gained support for the inclusion of the Fair Care for Vietnam Veterans Act (S.3444) in the FY2021 NDAA, which became Public Law 116-283. The amendment provides presumption for Parkinsonism, Bladder cancer, and Hypothyroidism under the Agent Orange Act. He also introduced two concurrent receipts bills (S.208 and S.3393) while cosponsoring more than 87 bills that impact the lives of veterans, servicemembers and their families.

In the current session of Congress, Sen. Tester serves as Chairman of the Senate Veterans Affairs Committee. He has re-introduced the Major Richard Star Act (S.344), and another concurrent receipt bill. He has also introduced a bill to include hypertension in the list of presumptive diseases under the Agent Orange law, a bill to provide care for veterans exposed to toxic substances when they served, and a bill to expand vaccine access to all veterans and their families.



Office of Inspector General

- 1) Biomedical Research: Observations on DOD's Management of Congressionally Directed Medical Research Programs
- 2) Electronic Health Records: VA Needs to Address Data Management Challenges for New System
- 3) VA Health Care: Clinical Contact Center Modernization Could Benefit from a Shared Schedule and Additional Guidance to Networks
- 4) VA Vet Centers: Continued Attention to GAO Recommendations Could Help Meet Veteran and Servicemember Needs
- 5) Defense Health Care: DOD Expanded Telehealth for Mental Health Care during the COVID-19 Pandemic
- 6) Coast Guard Health Care: Improvements Needed for Determining Staffing Needs and Monitoring Access to Care
- 7) COVID-19: Federal Efforts to Provide Vaccines to Racial and Ethnic Groups
- 8) Drug Safety: FDA Should Take Additional Steps to Improve Its Foreign Inspection Program
- 9) VA Mental Health Care: Improvements Needed in Tracking and Overseeing Partnerships with Nongovernmental Entities
- 10) Veterans Community Care Program: VA Should Strengthen Its Ability to Identify Ineligible Health Care Providers



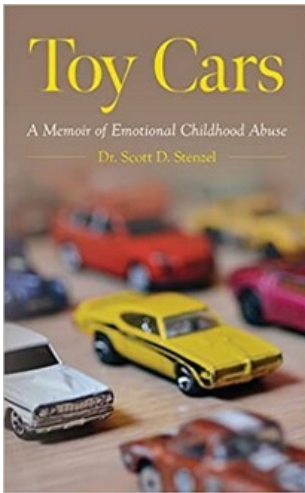
Visit the Updated Veterans Crisis Line Website

Every second counts for a Veteran in crisis. The improved site ensures the most critical information is visible immediately – now available in Spanish.

[Visit the New Site](#)



Toy Car Covers



As a child and adolescent, Scott D. Stenzel suffered from emotional abuse at the hands of his adoptive parents, primarily his adoptive father. Belittled and manipulated, Scott endured humiliation and isolation as a result of his father's maniacal temperament. For years, Scott lived with shame and guilt over his unhappy childhood - until the day he

chose to forgive his parents and found the confidence to move on. Having reclaimed his life, Scott revisits his painful past and reflects on the traumatic experiences he endured while living in an emotionally abusive home as well as his struggles throughout multiple deployments in this moving memoir. A compelling series of vignettes and short stories depicting the psychological impact of emotional abuse, *Toy Cars* challenges us to counter emotional abuse by learning how to recognize it and urges adult victims to confront their abuse in order to move forward.

Raised in Delaware, Scott D. Stenzel is a U.S. Air Force veteran who served four tours in Iraq and Afghanistan. He holds a doctorate degree in public administration and is an adjunct professor at Liberty University. He lives in Denver with his wife and son.

For more information contact:

Dr. Scott Stenzel ssenz130@gmail.com



HVAC Hearing on Vet Centers

The House Veterans Affairs, Health Subcommittee held an oversight hearing on the Department of Veteran Affairs (VA) Vet Centers. The focus of the hearing was about an Office of Inspector General (OIG) report on Vet Centers. The VA OIG report includes:

- Only 4 of 20 vet centers inspected have fully completed suicide and MST training;
- Substantial non-compliance was documented in the assessment of high-risk veterans review and reporting;
- Only 3 of the 20 Vet Centers had a standard procedure of communication with suicide prevention coordinators at VHA;
- Most councilors at the vet centers met productivity expectations but complained this led them to change practices with negatively impacted client care; and
- Leadership needs to be more engaged in Vet Center's daily activities.

It was noted at the hearing that Vet Centers have been important in meeting the needs of service members, veterans, and their families. The Vet Centers are moving to the Cerner platform to provide secure and confidential reporting via the Electronic Health Record Modernization (EHRM).



- 1) New In Vitro Methods to Understand and Mitigate Clinical Variability Associated with Injectable Suspensions
- 2) FDA Drug Shortages
- 3) Junp LLC Issues Voluntary Nationwide Recall of MegMan Performance Booster Capsules Due to the Presence of Tadalafil
- 4) SD BIOSENSOR, Issues Notification of Voluntary Recall of 'STANDARD Q COVID-19 Ag Home Test'
- 5) Do Not Use E25Bio COVID-19 Tests: FDA Safety Communication
- 6) Tianeptine Products Linked to Serious Harm, Overdoses, Death
- 7) FDA Takes Steps Aimed at Fostering Development of Non-Addictive Alternatives to Opioids for Acute Pain Management
- 8) Celebrate Today Issues Voluntary Nationwide Recall of One Lot of Red Mammoth Due to the Presence of Undeclared Sildenafil and Tadalafil
- 9) FDA Takes Steps Aimed at Fostering Development of Non-Addictive Alternatives to Opioids for Acute Pain Management
- 10) Your Favorite Shop Issues Voluntary Nationwide Recall of the Red Pill Capsules, Due to the Presence of Undeclared Tadalafil
- 11) ABC SALES 1 INC Issues Voluntary Nationwide Recall of MAC DADDY RED and MAC DADDY PURPLE Capsules Due to the Presence of Undeclared Sildenafil and Tadalafil
- 12) Potential Risk of Strangulation in Children who Use Enteral Feeding Delivery Sets
- 13) Recalls, Market Withdrawals, & Safety Alerts



5 Reasons to Check Your Prescription on the TRICARE Formulary Search Tool

Do you have questions about your prescription drug? Maybe you don't know where you can fill your new prescription, or how much it will cost. Use the TRICARE Formulary Search Tool to search for information on specific drugs to see whether they're available through the TRICARE pharmacy benefit.

[Read More](#)



UCMJ Includes Sexual Harassment

President Biden signed an Executive Order (EO) to strengthen the military justice system's response to gender-based violence and delivers on key recommendations from the Independent Review Commission on Sexual Assault in the Military (IRC), which Secretary of Defense Lloyd Austin launched in March 2021. The EO implements provisions in the recently passed FY 2022 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA S.1605, P.L.117-81). The EO establishes sexual harassment as a specific offense under the Uniform Code of Military Justice (UCMJ). It also strengthens the military justice response in prosecuting cases of domestic violence, and fully implements changes to the UCMJ to criminalize the wrongful broadcast or distribution of intimate visual images. You are able to read the [EO online](#).





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Spotlight on the Field

Recreation Therapist and Certified Applied Tai Chi Instructor at James A. Haley VAMC in Tampa, FL Provides Video Lessons

Research has shown that practicing tai chi can help improve the quality of life for those with heart failure and cancer.

[Read More](#)

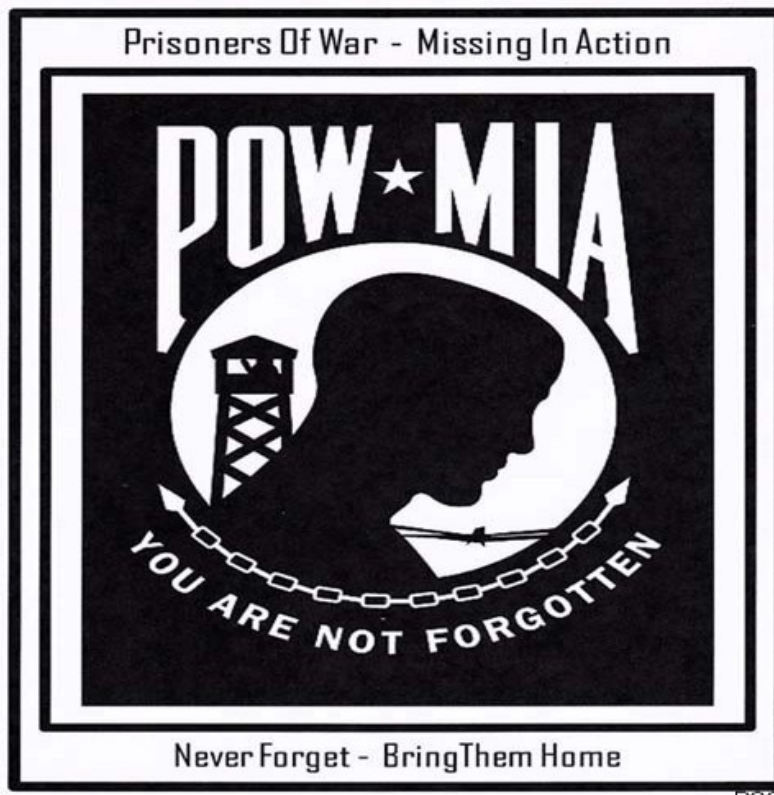


Last Call for FRA Benefit Survey

As part of its mission to bring the enlisted concerns to Capitol Hill, the FRA is conducting an online survey to determine which military and veteran benefits are most important to active duty and Reserve personnel, retirees, veterans, and their families. The [brief survey](#) asks current and former members of the uniformed services, as well as their spouses, to rate a variety of benefits and quality-of-life programs associated with their service to our nation. The survey has been available since Jan. 7, 2022, but will close next week, on Feb. 17.

The FRA is asking all current and former military personnel and their spouses to share their opinions about the programs they value most. Survey responses and comments from participants provide the legislative team important reference information when we testify before Congress or one-on-one meetings with lawmakers and their staff. The FRA also shares the survey results with elected officials on Capitol Hill, key committee staff, and leaders within the Departments of Defense, Homeland Security and Veterans Affairs - ensuring these crucial decision-makers understand the enlisted sea service perspective.





Healthy Teaching Kitchens

VA facilities across the country offer Healthy Teaching Kitchens (HTK) which teach Veterans and their families healthy cooking skills. Many HTK teach meal prep to help manage diseases and conditions such as diabetes.

[Read More](#)



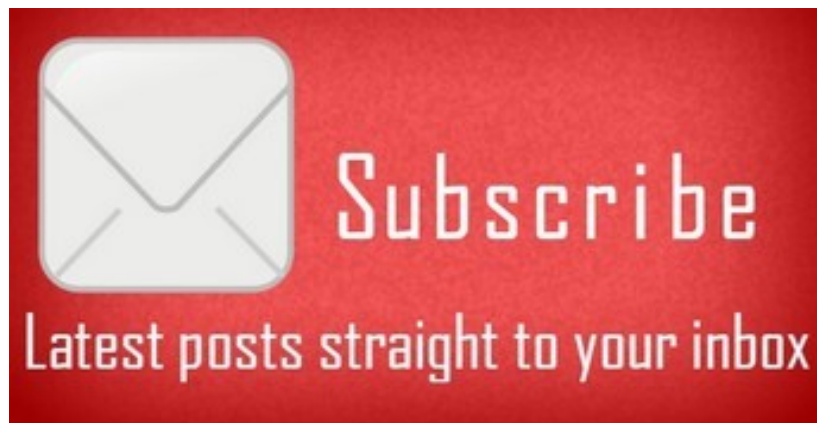
VA Needs a 20% Budget Boost to Cover Coming Surge of Medical Costs, Vets Groups Say

As reported February 7 by Patricia Kime for Military Times, the VA will need at least \$23 billion more than the administration has requested for next year's budget to meet growing demand for healthcare and services, according to a report released Monday by several large veterans' organizations. Most of the increase would go to healthcare provided by the VA and civilian providers to cover the cost of care deferred during the COVID-19 pandemic. With many patients delaying treatment or doctors' visits because of the pandemic, the report anticipates a surge of more complicated and expensive medical care as patients return to routine medical appointments.

[Read More](#)



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.



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Health Affairs Briefing: Racism & Health Virtual Symposium

Learn from a panel of distinguished authors and experts who present their work from the February 2022 issue of Health Affairs on the historical context, evolving research practices and policies, and the lived experience of populations whose health has been harmed by individual and structural racism.

[Read More](#)



Fewer Veterans Were in Homeless Shelters Last Year. Was COVID the Reason?

As reported February 8 by Leo Shane III for Military Times, the number of veterans in homeless shelters dropped by 10 percent last year according to new data released on Monday, but officials warned the count may have been lowered by complications related to the coronavirus pandemic. Even so, members of Congress hailed the news as another key step forward in their stated goal of providing stable housing for every veteran in America. According to the Department of Housing and Urban Development's annual assessment of those experiencing homelessness — which is based on data collected in January 2021, 10 months into America's coronavirus pandemic — about 19,750 veterans were experiencing “sheltered homelessness” one year ago.

[Read More](#)



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match yours.**




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VFW Testifies Before House Health Subcommittee

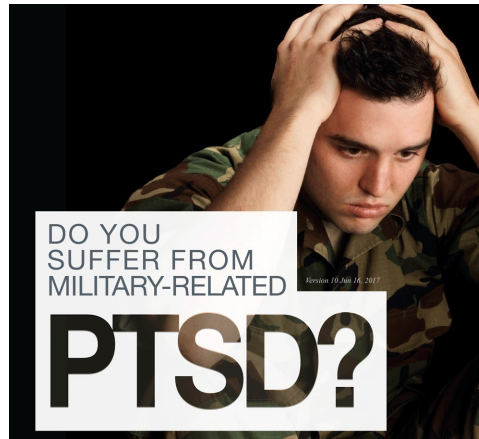
VFW National Legislative Director Pat Murray testified before the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs Subcommittee on Health. The hearing focused on Vet Centers and their importance in meeting the needs of service members, veterans, and their families. Murray stated, "The VFW is encouraged by the proposals in Congress to expand Vet Center services. However, with all expansions of eligibility, there also needs to be an expansion of resources to handle the increased workload." [Watch the hearing](#) or [read the testimony](#).



Stopgap Spending Bill With \$350 Million for Hawaii Water Crisis Clears House

As reported February 8 by Rebecca Kheel for Military.com, DoD would get \$350 million to respond to the water contamination crisis caused by Navy fuel storage in Hawaii under a bill passed Tuesday by the House. The funding was included in a stopgap spending bill known as a continuing resolution, or CR, to keep the government open past Feb. 18, when the current CR is set to expire. Typically, CRs just extend existing funds while preventing government agencies from starting any new programs. But lawmakers can include so-called "anomalies" that provide new funding, which they did to respond to the Red Hill Bulk Fuel Storage Facility spill.

[Read More](#)



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



**Military Sexual Harassment Now Punishable
Offense**

On Jan. 26, 2022, President Biden formally made sexual harassment a crime punishable under the Uniform Code of Military Justice. As directed in the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2022, the executive order is part of historic military justice reforms to eradicate sexual harassment from the military. [Read more.](#)



Navy Says It's Acting Fast to Fix Barracks Problems It Has Known About for Years

As reported February 10 by Geoff Ziezulewicz, less than a week after Navy Times published an investigation revealing how junior enlisted troops have gone without hot water for years in the barracks aboard the base that houses Walter Reed National Military Medical Center, Navy officials said Thursday they are moving fast to rectify the problems they admit to having known about for years. Navy leaders and the command of Naval Support Activity Bethesda, Maryland, have established a website with updates on progress made to alleviate hot water issues and other problems in the two barracks buildings, Comfort and Sanctuary halls.

[Read More](#)



House Holds Hearing on Securing High-Demand Jobs for Veterans

The House Veterans' Affairs Subcommittee on Economic Opportunity held a hearing focused on the impact of new VA education and training programs such as [Veteran Employment Through Technology Education Courses \(VET TEC\)](#) and [Veteran Rapid Retraining Assistance Program \(VRRAP\)](#) in securing veteran employment. Since its launch in 2019, VET TEC has placed over 1,700 graduates in new employment, earning an average salary of \$60,000. It is currently a five-year pilot program and the VFW continues to advocate for funding to support its success. [Watch the hearing.](#)



VA to Expand 3 Caregiving Programs by 2026

As reported on January 25, by Aaron Kassraie for AARP, the VA has announced plans to expand three of its home- and community-based caregiving services to its 171 medical centers by the end of 2026. Services are expanding to areas with the highest unmet needs and will include the addition of 58 medical foster homes, 70 veteran-directed care programs, and 75 home-based primary care teams within these programs: Home-Based Primary Care; Medical Foster Home; and Veteran-Directed Care.

[Read More](#)





Senate Committee Advances Bill for Post-9/11 Toxic-Exposed Vets

The Senate Committee on Veterans' Affairs unanimously passed the Health Care for Burn Pit Veterans Act, introduced by Chairman Jon Tester (D-Mont.) and Ranking Member Jerry Moran (R-Kan.). The VFW-supported legislation would extend VA health care eligibility for combat veterans from five to ten years after separation from the military. The bill would require VA to screen veterans regarding their exposures during service, furnish training for VA health care providers and disability claims processors, and provide additional reporting and tracking of veteran health conditions due to toxic exposures. "This legislation is a step in the right direction to take care of this group of veterans and we look forward to additional expansions of health care and benefits to cover all toxic exposed veterans," said VFW National Legislative Director Pat Murray. [Read more.](#)



The VA May Owe You Money for Unclaimed Funds

Unclaimed insurance funds are owed to certain current and former policyholders or their beneficiaries. The money is owed to individuals whom the VA has been unable to locate in order to make payment. This money represents death awards, dividend checks, and premium refunds that were mailed to policyholders. These payments were returned to VA by the Post Office because they could not be delivered. VA holds this money until we can locate the policyholder. Some of these payments have been held for years. Veterans and their families should go to:

<https://www.insurance.va.gov/UnclaimedFunds/> to see if they are entitled to unclaimed funds.



The Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency announced one burial update and seven new identifications for service members who have been missing and unaccounted-for from World War II and Korea. Returning home for burial with full military honors are:

Army Pvt. Andrew J. Ladner, 30, of Harrison City,

Mississippi, was assigned to 126th Infantry Regiment, 32nd Infantry Division. On Nov. 30, 1942, his unit was part of the effort to cut off the Japanese supply and communications line, called the Huggin Roadblock, on the island of New Guinea. Ladner was killed in the initial assault and buried near the blockade. Following the war, his remains could not be recovered. Ladner will be buried in Gulfport, Mississippi. The date has yet to be determined. [Read about Ladner.](#)

Army Air Forces Pfc. Edward H. Benson, Jr., 22, was assigned to the 1562nd Army Air Force Base Unit on Biak Island. A Japanese air raid of Sorido Airstrip on March 22, 1945, resulted in the deaths of 39 service members, including Benson. Interment services are pending. [Read about Benson.](#)

Army Staff Sgt. Grady H. Canup, 30, was assigned to Company C, 12th Infantry Regiment, 4th Infantry Division. He was reported killed in action on Nov. 14, 1944, when enemy artillery fire hit near his foxhole during the Hürtgen Forest offensive in Germany. Following the battle, his remains could not be recovered. Interment services are pending. [Read about Canup.](#)

Army Pfc. Kenneth L. Bridger, 17, was assigned to Company K, 3rd Battalion, 31st Infantry Regiment, 7th Infantry Division. He was reported missing in action on Nov. 30, 1950, on the last night of his unit's stand at the defensive perimeter near the east side of the Chosin Reservoir, North Korea. Following the battle, his remains could not be recovered. Interment services are pending. [Read about Bridger.](#)

Army Pfc. William B. Coleman, 21, was assigned to Company F, 2nd Battalion, 134th Infantry Regiment, 35th Infantry Division. On Nov. 1, 1944, Coleman was attempting to

remove a booby-trap mine when it exploded, killing him and severely wounding two soldiers who were with him. Following the war, his remains could not be recovered. Interment services are pending. [Read about Coleman.](#)

Army Air Forces Staff Sgt. Adolph Olenik, 19, was assigned to the 345th Bombardment Squadron, 98th Bombardment Group, 9th Air Force. On Aug. 1, 1943, the B-24 Liberator aircraft on which Olenik was serving as a gunner crashed as a result of enemy anti-aircraft fire. Following the war, his remains could not be identified. Interment services are pending. [Read about Olenik.](#)

Army Pvt. Walter G. Wildman, 20, was assigned to Company M, 12th Infantry Regiment, 4th Infantry Division. On Nov. 13, 1944, his unit was part of the Hürtgen Forest offensive in Germany, when he was reported killed in action. Following the battle his remains could not be recovered. Interment services are pending. [Read about Wildman.](#)

Army Cpl. Donald L. Menken, 21, was assigned to Company K, 3rd Battalion, 15th Infantry Regiment, 3rd Infantry Division. He was reported missing in action after being wounded on June 10, 1953, while his unit was guarding Outpost Harry on the main road to Seoul. Following the battle, Menken could not be recovered. Interment services are pending. [Read about Menken.](#)





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