



2023 PRIORITY GOALS

Support Today's Veterans and Military

Please contact or visit your congressional representatives and stress that these are the issues we will be fighting for in the 118th Congress. These priority goals reflect the resolutions passed and supported by the men and women of the VFW and its Auxiliary. To find your congressional representatives, visit vfw.org/ActionCorps.

Play a Role in the Process

Engage and help us ensure that these priority goals are enacted. Sign up today for the VFW Action Corps Weekly and VFW Action Alerts:

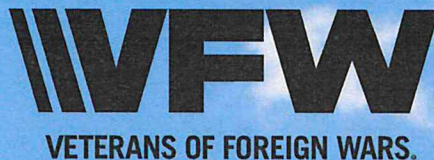
- Visit vfw.org/JoinActionCorps
- Text "VFW" to 50457*
- Scan QR Code below

*Messaging and data rates may apply. Message frequency varies. Reply HELP and STOP to unsubscribe.



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NO ONE DOES MORE FOR VETERANS®

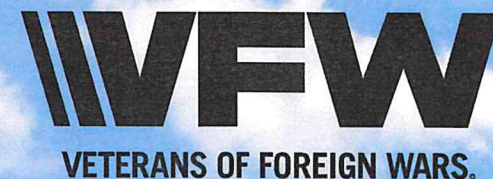


*Delivering the promise to our
veterans, service members,
and their families.*

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Budget

To fully fund programs for veterans, service members, and their families, Congress must:

- Reform the dysfunctional federal budget process.
- Authorize VA to receive reimbursements from TRICARE and Medicare.
- Never reduce one veteran's benefits to pay for another.

Disability Assistance and Memorial Affairs

To ensure veterans and their survivors have timely access to earned benefits, Congress and VA must:

- Properly implement comprehensive toxic exposure legislation.
- Review and assess military toxic exposures, and ensure health care and benefits are provided to all toxic-exposed veterans.
- Consider treatment of presumptive conditions as a claim for disability compensation.
- Properly implement the modernized appeals process.
- Reinstate pre-decisional review authority for claims representatives prior to final rating decisions.
- Require VA to accept private medical evidence in lieu of VA examinations.
- Update regulations and laws governing claims to account for digital claims processing.
- Improve the accuracy of disability compensation claims related to military sexual trauma.
- Crack down on predatory claims providers.
- Increase Dependency and Indemnity Compensation benefits for survivors.
- Increase burial allowances to account for inflation.

Education, Employment, and Transition Assistance

To ensure veterans succeed after leaving military service, Congress, VA, DOD, and DOL must:

- Require oversight of transition assistance program pathways, timely attendance, and connections to community transition resources.
- Ensure equal access to pre-discharge claims assistance across the services.
- Mandate the inclusion of accredited representatives in transition assistance briefings.
- Expand transition services for spouses.
- Ensure parity of VA and DOD education programs with other federal programs.
- Improve education benefits through increased online student housing allowances, child care stipends, parity for Guard and Reserve members, and elimination of delimiting dates.
- Enhance outreach and counseling to veterans eligible for the Veteran Readiness and Employment program.
- Expand small business and entrepreneurship resources for veterans and military spouses.
- Expand preferences and tax incentives for hiring veterans and military spouses.
- Fund and track outcomes for career-focused training programs.
- Increase funding for HUD-VASH vouchers, grant and per diem payments, and pilot programs to combat veteran homelessness.

Health Care

To ensure service members and veterans receive timely access to high-quality health care without increasing cost shares, Congress, VA, and DOD must:

- Reduce the number of service members and veterans who die by suicide to zero.
- Strengthen care and research for mental health and traumatic brain injuries.
- Research and effectively treat health conditions associated with toxic exposures.
- Expand geriatric extended care services, nursing home eligibility, and long-term care options.
- Improve VA's prescribing and deprescribing practices.
- Improve programs and services for women and minority veterans.

- Eliminate copayment requirements for preventive health care, including medications.
- Research the efficacy of medical cannabis.
- Properly implement VA and DOD health IT systems.
- Ensure Affordable Care Act parity and access for VA and TRICARE users.

Military Quality of Life

To maintain a quality, comprehensive benefits and retirement package that is the backbone for an all-volunteer force, Congress and DOD must:

- Eliminate sexual assault and harassment from the military.
- Increase military base pay comparability with private sector wages.
- Protect and improve on-base quality of life and support programs.
- Eliminate forced arbitration clauses in contracts for service members.
- Ensure that military housing is safe and free of toxic substances.
- End the military retirement pay and VA disability compensation offset.
- Ensure military family members are gainfully employed.
- Eliminate food insecurity in the military.
- Establish the Armed Forces University.
- Ensure equity of benefits for Reserve component service members.

National Security, Foreign Affairs, and POW/MIA

To fully support service members, and protect our nation's citizens and interests around the world, Congress and DOD must:

- Preserve the all-volunteer force.
- Expand partnerships with host nations and private/public organizations to achieve the fullest possible accounting of U.S. military personnel missing from all wars.
- Ensure DPAA is fully funded to perform its personnel recovery mission.