

SAN DIEGO COUNTY VETERANS ADVISORY COUNCIL

# LEGISLATIVE

UPDATE REPORT

*For  
Military & Veterans*

*Educate, Inform and  
Provide Access to Reliable Sources*

**OCTOBER  
2018**

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# STATE LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

## Status Update to State Bills

Compiled 10 October 2018

*Updates from last report of 10 July 2018*

### KEY DATES

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- **August 31, 2018** – Last day for each house to pass bills
- **September 30, 2018** – Last day for Governor to sign or veto bills
- **January 1, 2019** – Statutes take effect

### APPROVED

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#### **ACR-67 Veterans' Memorial Highway.**

*Designate a portion of State Highway Route 29 in the County of Napa as the Veterans' Memorial Highway. The measure would request the Department of Transportation to determine the cost for appropriate signs, as specified, and, upon receiving donations from nonstate sources covering that cost, to erect those signs.*

Last Reported Status: 21 August 2018 – Chaptered by Secretary of State - Res. Chapter 159, Statutes of 2018.

Research: [https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billStatusClient.xhtml?bill\\_id=201720180ACR67](https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billStatusClient.xhtml?bill_id=201720180ACR67)

#### **AB-865 Military personnel: veterans: resentencing: mitigating circumstances.**

*Under existing law, most felonies are punishable by a triad of terms of incarceration in the state prison, comprised of low, middle, and upper lengths of terms. Until January 1, 2022, the choice of the appropriate term that is to best serve the interests of justice rests within the sound discretion of the court. Existing law, effective January 1, 2015, requires the court, if it concludes that a defendant convicted of a felony offense is, or was, a member of the United States military who may be suffering from sexual trauma, traumatic brain injury, post-traumatic stress disorder, substance abuse, or mental health problems as a result of his or her military service, to consider that circumstance as a factor in mitigation when imposing a term pursuant to the sentencing provisions above. Under existing law, this consideration does not preclude the court from considering similar trauma, injury, substance abuse, or mental health due to other causes, as evidence or factors in mitigation. This bill would authorize any person who was sentenced for a felony conviction prior to January 1, 2015, and who is, or was, a member of the United States military and who may be suffering from any of the above-described conditions as a result of his or her military service to petition for a recall of sentence under specified conditions. The bill would require the court, upon receiving a petition, to determine, at a public hearing held after not less than 15 days' notice to the prosecution, the defense, and any victim of the offense, as specified, whether the person satisfies the specified criteria and, if so, would authorize the court, in its discretion, to resentence the person following a resentencing hearing. This bill would prohibit resentencing under these provisions from resulting in the imposition of a term longer than the original sentence. The bill would also require a person who is resentenced pursuant to these provisions to be given credit for time served.*

Last Reported Status: 19 September 2018 – Approved by Governor.

Research: [https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billStatusClient.xhtml?bill\\_id=201720180AB865](https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billStatusClient.xhtml?bill_id=201720180AB865)

#### **SB-1007 Sales & use taxes: exemption: military & veteran medical facilities.**

*Existing state sales and use tax laws impose a tax on retailers measured by the gross receipts from the sale of tangible personal property sold at retail in this state, or on the storage, use, or other consumption in this state of tangible personal property purchased from a retailer for storage, use, or other consumption in this state. The Sales and Use Tax Law provides various exemptions from those taxes, including an exemption for the sale of, or the storage, use, or other consumption of, meals and food products that are furnished or served by any nonprofit veteran's organization for purposes of fundraising, as specified. This bill, on and after January 1, 2019, and before January 1, 2025, would exempt from these taxes the gross receipts from the sale of, and the storage, use, or other consumption in this state of, building materials and supplies purchased by a qualified person for use by that qualified person in the construction of specified military and veteran medical facilities. The Bradley-Burns Uniform Local Sales and Use Tax Law authorizes cities and counties to impose local sales and use taxes in conformity with the Sales and Use Tax Law, and existing laws authorize districts, as specified, to impose transactions and use taxes in accordance with the Transactions and Use Tax Law, which generally conforms to the Sales and Use Tax Law. Amendments to the Sales and Use Tax Law are automatically incorporated into the local tax laws. Existing law requires the state to reimburse cities and counties for revenue losses caused by the enactment of sales and use tax exemptions. This bill would provide that, notwithstanding these provisions, no appropriation is made and the state shall not reimburse cities and counties for sales and use tax revenues lost by them pursuant to this bill. This bill would take effect immediately as a tax levy.*

Last Reported Status: 26 September 2018 – Approved by Governor.

Research: [https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billStatusClient.xhtml?bill\\_id=201720180SB1007](https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billStatusClient.xhtml?bill_id=201720180SB1007)

### **SB-1137 Veterans: professional licensing benefits.**

*An act to add Section 714 to the Military and Veterans Code, relating to veterans expanding licensing to include spouses of veterans.*

Last Reported Status: 14 September 2018 – Approved by Governor.

Research: [https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billStatusClient.xhtml?bill\\_id=201720180SB1175](https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billStatusClient.xhtml?bill_id=201720180SB1175)

### **SB-1304 Veterans: transitional assistance program: funding.**

*Existing law requires the Department of Veterans Affairs, by July 1, 2015, to develop a transition assistance program for veterans who have been discharged from the Armed Forces of the United States or National Guard of any state, to assist those veterans in successfully transitioning from military to civilian life in the state. This bill would authorize the Department of Veterans Affairs to accept donations of personal property, including cash or other gifts, to be used to further the purposes of the transition assistance program. The bill would create the CalTap Endowment Fund in the State Treasury for the purpose of receiving cash donations and would continuously appropriate moneys in the fund for the purpose of funding competitive grants in support of the transition assistance program. By creating a continuously appropriated fund, the bill would make an appropriation.*

Last Reported Status: 14 September 2018 – Approved by Governor.

Research: [https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billStatusClient.xhtml?bill\\_id=201720180SB1304](https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billStatusClient.xhtml?bill_id=201720180SB1304)

### **SB-1435 State military: officer commissions.**

*Existing law establishes within state government a Military Department headed by an Adjutant General. Existing law includes within the Military Department the office of the Adjutant General, the California National Guard, the State Military Reserve, the California Cadet Corps, and the Naval Militia. Existing law requires an officer who desires to resign to submit his or her resignation to the Governor. Among others, existing law authorizes the Governor to refuse to accept a resignation in time of war or when war is imminent, in time of civil stress or emergency, or on account of the exigencies of the service. This bill would revise and recast that provision to instead provide that the Governor under those circumstances may instead refuse to accept a resignation from an officer when the officer is mobilized for deployment on state or federal duty or notified of impending mobilization for state or federal military duty.*

Last Reported Status: 14 September 2018 – Approved by Governor.

Research: [https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billHistoryClient.xhtml?bill\\_id=201720180SB1435](https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billHistoryClient.xhtml?bill_id=201720180SB1435)

### **SB-1500 Prohibited discrimination against service members.**

*Existing law prohibits various types of discrimination against a member of the military or naval forces of the state or of the United States because of his or her membership or service, including, among others, discrimination with respect to his or her employment. Existing law prohibits an employer or officer or agent of a corporation, company, or firm, or other person from, among other things, discharging a person from employment because of the performance of any ordered military duty or training or by reason of being a member of the military or naval forces of the state. Existing law prohibits a person from refusing entrance into specified places to any member of the Army or Navy of the United States or of the military or naval forces of this state because that member wears the uniform of the organization to which he or she belongs. Existing law provides criminal penalties and civil remedies for violations of these prohibitions. This bill would extend the protections against, among other things, discharge from employment to members of the federal reserve components of the Armed Forces of the United States and members of the State Military Reserve. The bill would additionally prohibit refusing entrance into specified places to any member of the Armed Forces of the United States because that member wears the uniform of the organization to which he or she belongs. By expanding the scope of a crime, this bill would create a state-mandated local program. The California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain costs mandated by the state. Statutory provisions establish procedures for making that reimbursement. This bill would provide that no reimbursement is required by this act for a specified reason.*

Last Reported Status: 16 July 2018 – Approved by Governor.

Research: [https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billStatusClient.xhtml?bill\\_id=201720180SB1500](https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billStatusClient.xhtml?bill_id=201720180SB1500)

### **SB-1501 Military and veterans: enlisted persons.**

*Existing law establishes within state government a Military Department that includes the office of the Adjutant General, the California National Guard, the State Military Reserve, the California Cadet Corps, and the Naval Militia. Existing law also generally governs the administration of military and veterans' affairs, including those relating to enlisted men and women. This bill would make technical amendments to modify references throughout the code to "enlisted man or woman" or "enlisted men or women" to instead refer to "enlisted person" or "enlisted persons."*

Last Reported Status: 16 July 2018 – Approved by Governor.

Research: [https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billStatusClient.xhtml?bill\\_id=201720180SB1501](https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billStatusClient.xhtml?bill_id=201720180SB1501)

### **AB-1786 Community colleges: academic credit for prior military experience.**

Existing law establishes the California Community Colleges, under the administration of the Board of Governors of the California Community Colleges, as one of the segments of public postsecondary education in this state. Existing law establishes community college districts throughout the state and authorizes these districts to provide instruction at the campuses they operate. Existing law requires the Chancellor of the California Community Colleges, using common course descriptors and pertinent recommendations of the American Council on Education, to determine, by July 1, 2015, for which courses credit should be awarded for prior military experience. This bill would instead require the chancellor to establish, by March 31, 2019, an initiative to expand the use of course credit at the California Community Colleges for students with prior learning. The bill would require the chancellor to submit, by January 1, 2020, a report on the initiative to the Legislature.

Last Reported Status: 19 September 2018 – Approved by Governor. Research: [https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billStatusClient.xhtml?bill\\_id=201720180AB1786](https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billStatusClient.xhtml?bill_id=201720180AB1786)

### **AB-2439 Official state LGBTQ Veterans Memorial.**

Existing law recognizes certain animals, plants, towns, museums, and memorials as official state emblems, including, among others, the California Vietnam Veterans Memorial as the official state Vietnam veterans war memorial and the California State Military Museum and Resource Center as the official state military museum. This bill would recognize the LGBTQ Veterans Memorial at the Desert Memorial Park in Cathedral City as the official state LGBTQ veteran's memorial.

Last Reported Status: 20 August 2018 – Approved by Governor.

Research: [https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billStatusClient.xhtml?bill\\_id=201720180AB2439](https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billStatusClient.xhtml?bill_id=201720180AB2439)

### **AB-2568 County jails: veterans.**

Existing law authorizes county jails to be used for specified purposes, including the detention of persons charged with crimes and committed for trial. Existing law authorizes a court to place defendants who are current or former members of the United States military and suffering from specified conditions in a pretrial diversion program. This bill would require county jails to, upon detention of a person, ask if the person has served in the United States military and document the person's response. The bill would additionally require that the county jail make this information available to the person, his or her counsel, and the district attorney. By increasing the duties of county jails, this bill would impose a state-mandated local program. The California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain costs mandated by the state. Statutory provisions establish procedures for making that reimbursement. This bill would provide that, if the Commission on State Mandates determines that the bill contains costs mandated by the state, reimbursement for those costs shall be made pursuant to the statutory provisions noted above.

Last Reported Status: 6 September 2018 – Approved by Governor.

Research: [https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billStatusClient.xhtml?bill\\_id=201720180AB2568](https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billStatusClient.xhtml?bill_id=201720180AB2568)

### **AB-2722 Student financial aid: Calif. Military Department GI Bill Award Program.**

Existing law establishes various student financial aid programs under the administration of the Student Aid Commission and establishes eligibility requirements for the receipt of awards under those programs for participating students attending qualifying institutions. Existing law establishes the Military Department, which includes the California National Guard, the California State Military Reserve, and the Naval Militia, to perform various duties regarding the state militia. Existing law establishes the California National Guard Education Assistance Award Program on behalf of qualifying members of the California National Guard, the California State Military Reserve, and the Naval Militia under the administration of the commission. Existing law requires the Student Aid Commission to report annually to the Legislature regarding program participation and also requires the Legislative Analyst, on or before January 1, 2016, to prepare and submit to the Legislature a report on the program. Existing law further provides that the program becomes operative only if funds are appropriated for the purposes of the program. The program becomes inoperative on July 1, 2019, and is repealed on January 1, 2020. This bill would change the name of the program to the California Military Department GI Bill Award Program. The bill would provide that the award could be used to obtain one baccalaureate, graduate, or doctoral degree or a certificate, degree, or diploma that leads to a baccalaureate, graduate, or doctoral degree if the person agrees to serve 2 years in the California National-Guard, the Naval Militia, or the California State Military Reserve, as specified. The bill would delete the obsolete provision requiring the submission of a report by the Legislative Analyst. The bill would also delete the provision rendering the program inoperative on July 1, 2019, and repealing the program on January 1, 2020, thereby extending the program indefinitely.

Last Reported Status: 19 September 2018 – Approved by Governor.

Research: [https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill\\_id=201720180AB2722](https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=201720180AB2722)

## **AB-2762 Public contracts: disabled veteran business enterprises: local small business enterprises: social enterprises.**

*Existing law authorizes a local agency in facilitating contract awards to small businesses to provide for a small business preference of 5% in construction, the procurement of goods, or the delivery of services, and establishes a subcontracting participation goal for small businesses on contracts with a 5% preference for those bidders who meet the goal. Existing law authorizes each local agency to define a small business for the purposes of these preferences and goals. This bill would increase the above-described preference for small business to 7%. The bill, until January 1, 2024, would also establish preferences, in specified counties, for disabled veteran businesses and social enterprises, as defined, and would provide for the preferences to be a maximum of 7% for an individual preference and up to 15% for a single bid having 2 or more preferences. The bill would limit the value of all combined preferences to a maximum of \$100,000. The bill would authorize a prime contractor, with the approval of the local agency, to substitute another subcontractor with the same preference category for the purpose of meeting specified goals. The bill would require a local agency that grants a preference under these provisions to establish a certification process for social enterprises using specified criteria. The bill would also authorize each local agency to define a disabled veteran business and social enterprise and to define their eligibility for the purposes of these preferences and goals.*

Last Reported Status: 21 September 2018 – Approved by Governor.

Research: [https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billStatusClient.xhtml?bill\\_id=201720180AB2762](https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billStatusClient.xhtml?bill_id=201720180AB2762)

## **AB-2801 Crimes: memorials: veterans and law enforcement.**

*Existing law makes it a crime for a person to destroy, cut, mutilate, deface, or otherwise injure, tear down, or remove any tomb, monument, memorial, or marker in a cemetery. Existing law makes it a crime, punishable as a felony or a misdemeanor, to maliciously destroy, cut, break, mutilate, efface, or otherwise injure, tear down, or remove any veterans' memorial constructed or established in specified ways. Existing law makes it a crime, punishable as a felony or a misdemeanor, to maliciously destroy, cut, break, mutilate, efface, or otherwise injure, tear down, or remove any law enforcement memorial or firefighter's memorial. This bill would specify that the provisions above regarding law enforcement and firefighter's memorials do not preclude prosecution under any other provision of law, including those regarding veterans' memorials.*

Last Reported Status: 11 September 2018 – Approved by Governor.

Research: [https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billStatusClient.xhtml?bill\\_id=201720180AB2801](https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billStatusClient.xhtml?bill_id=201720180AB2801)

## **AB-2894 Postsecondary education: students called to active military duty during an academic term.**

*Existing law establishes the California Community Colleges, the California State University, the University of California, independent institutions of higher education, and private postsecondary educational institutions as the 5 segments of postsecondary education in this state. Existing law requires public and private postsecondary educational institutions to refund 100% of the tuition and fees paid by a student to the institution for the academic term in which the student was required to report for military service, regardless of whether the student was called to military service before the academic term had commenced or after the academic term had commenced. This bill would provide that, subject to applicable federal, state, and institutional refund and withdrawal policies, when a student, as defined, is called to active military duty during an academic term, the student may: choose to withdraw from the institution, retroactive to the beginning of the academic term; if at least 75% of the term has been completed, choose to request that the faculty member assign a grade for the course based on the work the student has completed, as specified; or, if the faculty member assigns a grade of Incomplete for the student's coursework, the student has a minimum of 4 weeks after returning to the institution to complete the course requirements, as prescribed. Under the bill, a student would be defined as a person enrolled, or previously enrolled, at a campus of any of the 5 segments of postsecondary education listed above.*

Last Reported Status: 11 September 2018 – Approved by Governor.

Research: [https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billStatusClient.xhtml?bill\\_id=201720180AB2894](https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billStatusClient.xhtml?bill_id=201720180AB2894)

## **AB-2325 County mental health services: veterans.**

*Existing law contains provisions governing the operation and financing of community mental health services for the mentally disordered in every county through locally administered and locally controlled community mental health programs. Existing law further provides that, to the extent resources are available, the primary goal of the use of funds deposited in the mental health account of the local health and welfare trust fund should be to serve specified target populations, including, among others, California veterans in need of mental health services who meet specified eligibility requirements. Existing law prohibits a county from denying county mental health services to an eligible veteran based solely on his or her status as a veteran. Existing law requires a county to refer a veteran to the county veterans service officer, if any, to determine the veteran's eligibility for, and the availability of, mental health services provided by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs or any other federal health care provider. This bill would prevent a county from denying an eligible veteran county mental or behavioral health services while the veteran is waiting for a determination of eligibility for, and availability of, mental or behavioral health services provided by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs. The bill would make specific findings and declarations about the county's duty to provide mental and behavioral health services to veterans.*

Last Reported Status: 18 July 2018 – Approved by Governor

Research: [https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billStatusClient.xhtml?bill\\_id=201720180AB2325](https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billStatusClient.xhtml?bill_id=201720180AB2325)

### **AB-3212 Service member protections.**

*An act to amend Sections 401, 402, 403, 404, 405, 406, 407, 408, 409.1, 409.2, 409.3, 409.4, 800, 803, 811, 821, 822, 823.5, 824, 826, and 827 of, to add Sections 409.15, 813, and 830 to, and to repeal and add Sections 400 and 409 of, the Military and Veterans Code, relating to service members*

Last Reported Status: 19 September 2018 – Approved by Governor.

Research: [https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billStatusClient.xhtml?bill\\_id=201720180AB3212](https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billStatusClient.xhtml?bill_id=201720180AB3212)

### **AB-3251 Sale of armories.**

*Existing law authorizes the Director of General Services, with the approval of the Adjutant General, to lease and sell real property held for armory purposes, on terms and conditions in the best interests of the state and subject to legislative approval. Existing law requires an armory to be offered for sale to any city, county, city and county, and district prior to being offered for sale to private entities or individuals. Existing law establishes the Armory Fund and requires that all proceeds from the sale or lease of armories be deposited into the fund for use, upon appropriation by the Legislature, for specified purposes related to armories. This bill would authorize the Director of General Services, with the approval of the Adjutant General, to sell specified armories throughout the state subject to these provisions, including the deposit of the sale proceeds into the Armory Fund. The bill would require the Sylmar Armory to be offered to a specific joint powers authority in the same manner as any city, county, city and county, and district prior to being offered for sale to private entities or individuals.*

Last Reported Status: 23 September 2018 – Approved by Governor.

Research: [https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billStatusClient.xhtml?bill\\_id=201720180AB3212](https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billStatusClient.xhtml?bill_id=201720180AB3212)

## **BILLS INTRODUCED SINCE LAST REPORT**

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NONE

## **BILLS STILL UNDER REVIEW**

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### **AB-353 Employment policy: voluntary veterans' preference.**

*An act to amend language as referred to regarding Fair Employment & Housing Act related to veteran's employment.*

Last Reported Status: 11 July 2017 – In Committee. Set, first hearing. Failed passage. Reconsideration granted. No change, still listed as an active bill.

Research: [https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billStatusClient.xhtml?bill\\_id=201720180AB353](https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billStatusClient.xhtml?bill_id=201720180AB353)

### **SB-1043 Department of Veterans Affairs: veterans' services.**

*Existing law requires the Dept of Veterans Affairs to disburse funds, appropriated to the department for the purpose of supporting county veterans service officers pursuant to the annual Budget Act, on a pro rata basis, to counties that have established and maintain a county veterans service officer in accordance with the staffing level and workload of each county veterans service officer under a formula based upon performance developed by the department.*

Last Reported Status: 7 June 2018 – Referred to Committee on Veterans Affairs.

Research: [https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billStatusClient.xhtml?bill\\_id=201720180SB1043](https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billStatusClient.xhtml?bill_id=201720180SB1043)

### **SB-1178 California Disabled Veteran Business Enterprise Program.**

*Under existing law, the administering agency for the California Disabled Veteran Business Enterprise Program is the Department of General Services, except in the case of contracts for professional bond services. Existing law requires the Director of General Services to adopt written policies and guidelines establishing a uniform process for state contracting to provide a disabled veteran business enterprise (DVBE) participation incentive to bidders, which all state agencies are required to use when awarding contracts.*

Last Reported Status: 2 April 2018 – From committee with author's amendments. Read second time and amended. Re-referred to Com. on V.A. April 10 set for first hearing canceled at the request of author. No change, but still listed as an active bill.

Research: [https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billStatusClient.xhtml?bill\\_id=201720180SB1178](https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billStatusClient.xhtml?bill_id=201720180SB1178)

### **SB-1179 Public contracts: Disabled Veteran Business Enterprise Program.**

*Under existing law, the Department of General Services, except in the case of contracts for professional bond services, is the administering agency of the California Disabled Veteran Business Enterprise Program, which requires state agencies and all other state entities contracting for materials, supplies, equipment, alteration, repair, or improvement to have at least 3% participation goals for disabled veteran business enterprises (DVBE), as defined. Existing law requires an awarding department, upon completion of an awarded contract for which a commitment to achieve a DVBE goal was made, to require the prime contractor that entered into a subcontract with a DVBE to certify to the awarding department specified information relating to amounts paid under the contract, as specified. Existing law subjects a person or entity that knowingly provides false information on this certification to certain criminal and civil penalties, as specified. Existing law makes it a crime to, among other things, knowingly and with intent to defraud, fraudulently represent participation of a disabled veteran business enterprise in order to obtain or retain a bid preference or a state contract. Existing law requires the Department of General Services to suspend, for a specified period, any person who violates these provisions from bidding on, or participating as either a contractor, subcontractor, or supplier in, any state contract or project, as specified. Existing law requires the Department of General Services to monitor the status of all reported violations and maintain and make available to all state departments a central listing of all firms and persons who have been determined to have committed violations resulting in suspension. Existing law prohibits an awarding department from entering into any contract with any person suspended for violating these provisions during the person's suspension and requires the awarding department to check the central listing provided by the Department of General Services to verify that the person or contractor to whom the contract is being awarded, or any person being utilized as a subcontractor or supplier by that person or contractor, is not under suspension. This bill would require an awarding department to give a prime contractor that fails to comply with the certification requirements described above reasonable opportunity to cure the failure. The bill would require the awarding department to provide notice of the failure to the Department of General Services, if after providing reasonable opportunity, the prime contractor continues to fail to comply with the certification requirements. The bill would require the Department of General Services, upon notification of the failure, to suspend the prime contractor from bidding on, or participating as either a contractor, subcontractor, or supplier in, any state contract or project for a period of not less than 5 years for a first violation, as specified, except that the contractor would be required to meet all obligations of any existing contract to which it is a party. The bill would require the Department of General Services to permanently suspend the prime contractor from the program for a 2<sup>nd</sup> violation, except that the contractor would be required to meet all obligations of any existing contract to which it is a party. The bill would subject a suspension issued under these provisions to the monitoring, listing, and verification requirements, and contracting prohibitions, described above.*

Last Reported Status: 7 June 2018 – Referred to Committee on Jobs, Economic Development & the Economy and Accountability and Admin. Review.

Research: [https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billStatusClient.xhtml?bill\\_id=201720180SB1179](https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billStatusClient.xhtml?bill_id=201720180SB1179)

### **SB-1180 California Disabled Veteran Business Enterprise Program.**

*An act to amend Section 999.5 of the Military and Veterans Code, relating to disabled veterans. Under existing law, the administering agency for the California Disabled Veteran Business Enterprise Program is the Department of General Services, except in the case of contracts for professional bond services. Existing law requires the Director of General Services to adopt written policies and guidelines establishing a uniform process for state contracting to provide a certified disabled veteran business enterprise (DVBE) participation incentive to bidders, which all state agencies are required to use when awarding contracts. Existing law requires an awarding department, upon completion of an awarded contract for which a commitment to achieve a DVBE goal was made, to require the prime contractor that entered into a subcontract with a DVBE to certify to the awarding department specified information relating to amounts paid under the contract. This bill would require an awarding department to maintain all records of the information provided by the prime contractor pursuant to those provisions and to retain the records for a minimum of 6 years after collection. The bill would require the awarding department to maintain those records in a manner that facilitates access and review by external auditors. The bill would require the awarding department to establish appropriate review procedures for those records to ensure the accuracy and completeness of the award amounts and paid amounts reported.*

Last Reported Status: 7 June 2018 – Referred to Committee on Jobs, Economic Development & the Economy and Accountability and Admin. Review.

Research: [https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billStatusClient.xhtml?bill\\_id=201720180SB1180](https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billStatusClient.xhtml?bill_id=201720180SB1180)

### **SB-1357 Vehicles: license plates: veterans.**

*Existing law requires the Department of Motor Vehicles to issue special license plates under a special interest license plate program, as specified, and authorizes organizations, including veterans' organizations, to participate in that program. Existing law authorizes any person who is the registered owner or lessee of a vehicle to apply for a special interest license plate that has a distinctive design or decal that honors all veterans or veterans who served in a particular war or armed conflict. Under existing law, these special interest license plates are subject to fees for issuance, renewal, or personalization that are additional to those required for nonspecialized license plates. Existing law requires that the revenue from those additional fees, less the department's costs, be deposited in the Veterans Service Office Fund, and further requires that money in the Veterans Service Office Fund be available, upon appropriation by the Legislature, to the Department of Veterans Affairs for allocation and disbursement to counties for the operation of county veterans service offices.*

Last Reported Status: 25 June 2018 — Referred to Committee on Transportation. Set for second hearing, canceled at request of author.

Research: [https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billStatusClient.xhtml?bill\\_id=201720180SB1357](https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billStatusClient.xhtml?bill_id=201720180SB1357)

## **SB-1452 War on Terror Memorial Committee.**

*Existing law prescribes various duties for the Department of General Services in connection with the development and maintenance of the park around the State Capitol Building. Existing law authorizes the construction of various memorials in the Capitol Historic Region. This bill would establish the War on Terror Memorial Committee, and would require the committee, in consultation with the department, to conduct a review of the feasibility and best practices for the establishment and construction of a War on Terror Memorial in or around the State Capitol Park. The bill would also require the committee to report its findings and recommendations to the Legislature, as provided, and would prohibit the expenditure of state funds for purposes of implementing its provisions.*

Last Reported Status: 10 May 2018 – In Assembly. Read first time. Held at Desk.

Research: [https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billStatusClient.xhtml?bill\\_id=201720180SB1452](https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billStatusClient.xhtml?bill_id=201720180SB1452)

## **BILLS HELD UNDER SUBMISSION**

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*Held Under Submission: An action taken by a committee when a bill is heard in committee and there is an indication that the author and the committee members want to work on or discuss the bill further, but there is no motion for the bill to progress out of committee. This does not preclude the bill from being set for another hearing.*

## **SB-485 Veterans' homes.**

*Existing law provides for the establishment and operation of veterans' homes at various sites, and provides for an administrator of each home, as specified. Existing law establishes the duties of the Department of Veterans Affairs with regard to the establishment and regulation of veterans' homes. This bill would specify that the administrator of each home is responsible for ensuring compliance with State and Federal law, as specified. The bill would require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to adopt uniform statewide policies and procedures, by regulation, for the operation of veterans' homes, relating to, among other things, the admission of residents and quality of care standards. The bill would make findings and declarations and state the intent of the Legislature to monitor the department's efforts to implement a statewide electronic health record for its system of veterans' homes.*

Last Reported Status: 16 August 2018 – Held in committee and under submission..

Research: [https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billStatusClient.xhtml?bill\\_id=201720180SB485](https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billStatusClient.xhtml?bill_id=201720180SB485)

## **AB 665 – Military Personnel: Veterans: Resentencing.**

*An act to amend Section 1170.91 of the Penal Code, relating to sentencing.*

Last Reported Status: 1 September 2017 - In committee: Held under submission.

Research: [https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill\\_id=201720180AB665](https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=201720180AB665)

## **SB-409 Veterans' homes: services: complex mental & behavioral health needs.**

*An act to add Section 1012.5 to the Military and Veterans Code, relating to veterans.*

Last Reported Status: 1 September 2017 - Held in committee and under submission.

Research: [http://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billTextClient.xhtml?bill\\_id=201720180SB409](http://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billTextClient.xhtml?bill_id=201720180SB409)

## **AB-986 Hunting and sport fishing licenses: sport fishing license duration: reduction in license fees for veterans.**

*This bill, among other stipulations, would require the department to reduce the fee required to obtain the above-described licenses and the 12 consecutive month licenses created by this bill by 25% for a person who is a veteran of the Armed Forces of the United States, was honorably discharged, and is a resident of California.*

Last Reported Status: 16 August 2018 – In Committee – Held under submission.

Research: [https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billStatusClient.xhtml?bill\\_id=201720180AB986](https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billStatusClient.xhtml?bill_id=201720180AB986)

## **SB-1175 State property: parking facilities: Purple Heart recipients.**

*Existing law authorizes a Purple Heart recipient to apply for special license plates inscribed with the Purple Heart insignia to be issued for a vehicle that is owned or co-owned by the Purple Heart recipient. The law authorizes an applicant for the Purple Heart license plate who qualifies as a disabled veteran to apply also for a distinguishing placard to be used in conjunction with the Purple Heart license plate for specified special parking privileges. This bill would require a state agency with a parking facility that is available to private persons who conduct business with the agency to reserve a parking space free of charge for the exclusive use of any vehicle that displays a Purple Heart special license plate.*

Last Reported Status: 25 May 2018 – Held in committee and under submission.

Research: [https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billStatusClient.xhtml?bill\\_id=201720180SB1175](https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billStatusClient.xhtml?bill_id=201720180SB1175)

### **SB-1314 Veterans homes: services: complex mental/behavioral health needs.**

*Existing law provides for the establishment and operation of veterans' homes at various sites, and provides for an administrator of each home, as specified. Existing law establishes the duties of the Department of Veterans Affairs with regard to the establishment and regulation of veterans' homes. This bill would require the Department of Veterans Affairs to conduct a survey to assess the ability of veterans' homes to assist veterans with complex mental and behavioral health needs, and develop a plan to accommodate that population, as prescribed. The bill would require the department to submit the plan and any recommendations for future legislation necessary to achieve its objectives to specified committees of the Legislature by January 1, 2020, and to begin adopting the recommendations by appropriate means, by July 1, 2020.*

Last Reported Status: 16 August 2018 – Held in Committee and under submission.

Research: [https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billStatusClient.xhtml?bill\\_id=201720180SB1314](https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billStatusClient.xhtml?bill_id=201720180SB1314)

### **AB-2254 Property tax: exemption:**

*An act to amend Section 205.5 of the Revenue and Taxation Code, relating to taxation, to take effect immediately, tax levy.*

Last Reported Status: 25 May 2018 – Held under submission

Research: [https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billTextClient.xhtml?bill\\_id=201720180AB2254](https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billTextClient.xhtml?bill_id=201720180AB2254)

### **AB-2295 Medi-Cal: veterans: home- and community-based services.**

*Existing law establishes the Medi-Cal program, which is administered by the State Department of Health Care Services, under which qualified low-income persons receive health care services. The Medi-Cal program is, in part, governed and funded by federal Medicaid Program provisions. Existing federal law provides for various home- and community-based services waivers that promote coverage and services that enable an individual who would otherwise be institutionalized to live at home or in the community. This bill would require the department to submit a waiver application or an amendment to the state plan for home- and community-based services (HCBS) to authorize an individual who is eligible for those services to enroll in Medi-Cal when the military service member has received military orders to transfer into California, upon receipt of the orders and the beneficiary was receiving Medicaid HCBS in the last state of residence. The bill would authorize a veteran beneficiary or a child beneficiary whose parent or guardian is an active or retired military service member to retain eligibility for Medi-Cal HCBS if the service member receives a governmental order to relocate to another state, as long as the parent or guardian retains California as the state of legal residence and the beneficiary retains eligibility for the services.*

Last Reported Status: 25 May 2018 – Held under submission

Research: [https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billStatusClient.xhtml?bill\\_id=201720180AB2295](https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billStatusClient.xhtml?bill_id=201720180AB2295)

### **AB-2394 Personal income taxes: exclusion: military retirement pay.**

*The Personal Income Tax Law imposes a tax on individual taxpayers measured by the taxpayer's taxable income for the taxable year, but excludes certain items of income from the computation of tax, including an exclusion for combat-related special compensation.*

Last Reported Status: 25 May 2018 – In Committee: Held Under Submission

Research: [https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billTextClient.xhtml?bill\\_id=201720180AB2394](https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billTextClient.xhtml?bill_id=201720180AB2394)

### **AB-2607 Veterans: Medical Foster Home Pilot Program.**

*Existing law establishes the Department of Veterans Affairs, which is responsible for administering various programs and services for the benefit of veterans. Existing law provides for the licensure of residential care facilities for the elderly, community care facilities, and residential care facilities for persons with chronic, life-threatening illness by the State Department of Social Services. Existing law exempts from the application of these provisions specified facilities, including general acute care hospitals and clinics. Existing law authorizes the California State Auditor, upon the request by the Joint Legislative Audit Committee and to the extent funding is available, to audit a state or local governmental agency, as defined, or any other publicly created entity.*

Last Reported Status: 25 May 2018 – In committee. Held under submission

Research: [https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billStatusClient.xhtml?bill\\_id=201720180AB2607](https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billStatusClient.xhtml?bill_id=201720180AB2607)

### **AB-2170 Veterans education and training: California State Approving Agency for Veterans Education.**

*Under existing federal law, the California State Approving Agency for Veterans Education monitors, evaluates, and approves or disapproves veterans education and training programs in this state. This bill would require the California State Approving Agency for Veterans Education to provide for the certification of nanodegree for completing certain vocational education programs in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics concentrations for veterans returning from military service on or after September 11, 2001, offered by California institutions of higher education as part of their participation in veterans education and training programs authorized by the federal Higher Education Act.*

Last Reported Status: 25 May 2018 – In committee: Held under submission.

Research: [https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billTextClient.xhtml?bill\\_id=201720180AB2394](https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billTextClient.xhtml?bill_id=201720180AB2394)

### **AB-2737 Veterans' homes: Yountville.**

Existing law establishes the Veterans' Home of California system, comprised of subsidiary home locations including the Veterans' Home of California, Yountville, in Napa County. Existing law requires all moneys received by a home, or by an officer of a home, to be paid to the administrator of the home, as specified. Existing law requires the administrator, on the 10th day of each month, to forward to the Treasurer all moneys in his or her possession for deposit in the General Fund, as specified. Existing law authorizes the Department of General Services to lease any real property held by the department for a veterans' home, and requires all moneys received from a lease to be deposited into the General Fund to the credit of and in augmentation of the appropriation for the support of the veterans' home system. This bill would require the administrator of the Veterans' Home of California, Yountville, to deposit all revenue generated from employee housing on the campus into a continuously appropriated fund maintained by the administrator for expenditure by the administrator for the maintenance, rehabilitation, and restoration of the Yountville campus. By authorizing the expenditure of these funds, this bill would make an appropriation.

Last Reported Status: 25 May 2018 – In committee. Held under submission

Research: [https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billStatusClient.xhtml?bill\\_id=201720180AB2737](https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billStatusClient.xhtml?bill_id=201720180AB2737)

### **AB-3128 Personal income tax: credit: disabled veteran: service dog.**

The Personal Income Tax Law allows various credits against the taxes imposed by that law. This bill, for taxable years beginning on or after January 1, 2019, and before January 1, 2029, would allow a credit against those taxes in an amount equal to 50% of the amount paid or incurred during the taxable year by a qualified disabled veteran for the ownership and maintenance of a service dog, not to exceed \$1,500 for a taxable year. This bill would take effect immediately as a tax levy.

Last Reported Status: 25 May 2018 – In committee. Held under submission

Research: [https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billStatusClient.xhtml?bill\\_id=201720180AB3128](https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billStatusClient.xhtml?bill_id=201720180AB3128)

### **AB-3209 Property tax: exemption: principal residence: disabled veterans and their unmarried surviving spouses.**

An act to amend Section 205.5 of the Revenue and Taxation Code, relating to taxation, to take effect immediately, tax levy.

Last Reported Status: 25 May 2018 – Held Under Submission

Research: [https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billStatusClient.xhtml?bill\\_id=201720180AB3209](https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billStatusClient.xhtml?bill_id=201720180AB3209)

## **VETOED BY GOVERNOR**

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### **SB-1427 Discrimination: veteran or military status.**

Last Reported Status: 30 September 2018 – Vetoed by Governor.

**(Reason reported:** “This bill would require the Department of Veteran Affairs to maintain specific records of promotional efforts This bill would add veterans and military personnel as a protected class under the Fair Employment and Housing Act. It also prohibits landlords and property owners from refusing to accept federal Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing vouchers as a source of income for payment of rent. We should support our veterans and military personnel, but this bill goes too far. Specifically, it forces landlords and property owners to take part in what has always been a voluntary federal program with numerous requirements. These include registration with a local housing authority, participation in training, property inspections and modification of leases to conform with federal standards. I don't believe a mandate to comply with all these requirements is warranted.” )

Research: [https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billStatusClient.xhtml?bill\\_id=201720180SB1427](https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billStatusClient.xhtml?bill_id=201720180SB1427)

### **AB-1873 Driver's licenses: veteran designation.**

Last Reported Status: 21 September 2018 – Vetoed by Governor.

**(Reason reported:** “Bill requires significant information technology programming at the Department of Motor Vehicles. Reducing wait times in field offices and addressing the urgent needs of customers is the top priority. The programming required to implement these bills will delay the department's ability to fully modernize its aging information technology systems. While these bills may have merit, it would be prudent for the Legislature to pause on additional mandates while the department works to complete programming for prior legislative mandates and system upgrades designed to reduce transaction times and improve customer service.”)

Research: [https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billStatusClient.xhtml?bill\\_id=201720180AB1873](https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billStatusClient.xhtml?bill_id=201720180AB1873)

### **AB-2135 Gold Star Family specialized license plates.**

Last Reported Status: 21 September 2018 – Vetoed by Governor.

**(Reason reported:** *Bill requires significant information technology programming at the Department of Motor Vehicles. Reducing wait times in field offices and addressing the urgent needs of customers is the top priority. The programming required to implement these bills will delay the department's ability to fully modernize its aging information technology systems. While these bills may have merit, it would be prudent for the Legislature to pause on additional mandates while the department works to complete programming for prior legislative mandates and system upgrades designed to reduce transaction times and improve customer service.*)

Research: [https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billStatusClient.xhtml?bill\\_id=201720180AB2135](https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billStatusClient.xhtml?bill_id=201720180AB2135)

### **AB-2790 Veterans: Internal Audits for Veterans Affairs.**

Last Reported Status: 11 September 2018 – Vetoed by Governor.

**(Reason reported:** *"This bill would create an Office of Internal Audits at the California Department of Veterans Affairs, led by a chief auditor, to conduct programmatic and financial reviews, as well as investigate allegations of employee misconduct. The bill will result in significant ongoing costs to the General Fund. Additional spending to support new programs, including the creation of an internal audits unit within the Department, must be considered through the annual budget process."*)

Research: [https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billStatusClient.xhtml?bill\\_id=201720180AB2790](https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billStatusClient.xhtml?bill_id=201720180AB2790)

# FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

## Status Update to Federal Bills During 115<sup>th</sup> Congress

### Compiled 10 October 2018 (since last report 10 July)

#### Enacted (since last report)

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##### **H.R. 4958: Veterans' Compensation Cost-of-Living Adjustment Act of 2018**

Summary: *To increase, effective as of December 1, 2018, the rates of compensation for veterans with service-connected disabilities and the rates of dependency and indemnity compensation for the survivors of certain disabled veterans, and for other purposes.*

(Full Summary: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/hr4958> )

Sponsor: Rep. Mike Bost [R-IL12] Introduced: February 7, 2018

**Enacted – October 9th – Became Law – PL No. 115-258.**

##### **H.R. 2147: Veterans Treatment Court Improvement Act of 2018**

Summary: *Requires the Department of Veterans Affairs to hire at least 50 Veterans Justice Outreach (VJO) specialists at eligible VA medical centers to ensure veterans who become involved in the criminal justice system have greater access to Veterans Treatment Courts (VTCs).*

(Full Summary: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/hr2147> )

Sponsor: Rep. Mike Coffman [R-CO6] Introduced: April 26, 2018

**Enacted — Signed by the President Sep 17, 2018**

##### **S. 899: Veterans Providing Healthcare Transition Improvement Act**

Summary: *An Act to amend title 5, United States Code, to ensure that the requirements that new Federal employees who are veterans with service-connected disabilities are provided leave for purposes of undergoing medical treatment for such disabilities apply to certain employees of the Veterans Health Administration.*

(Full Summary: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/s899> )

Sponsor: Sen. Mazie Hirono [D-HI] Introduced: April 7, 2018

**Enacted — Signed by the President Sep 7, 2018**

#### Newly Introduced (since last report)

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##### **S. 3563: A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide the work opportunity tax credit with respect to hiring veterans who are receiving educational assistance under laws administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs or Defense.**

Summary: *As stated.*

(Full Summary: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/s3563> )

Sponsor: Sen. Heidi Heitkamp [D-ND] Introduced: October 10, 2018

##### **H.R. 7017: To direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to carry out a demonstration program to expand the availability of telemedicine services for veterans living in rural areas with certain mental health disorders, and for other purposes.**

Summary: *As stated.*

(Full Summary: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/hr7017> )

Sponsor: Rep. Ann Kuster [D-NH2] Introduced: October 2, 2018

##### **S. 3536: Protect Affordable Mortgages for Veterans Act of 2018**

Summary: *A bill to amend the Economic Growth, Regulatory Relief, and Consumer Protection Act to clarify seasoning requirements for certain refinanced mortgage loans, and for other purposes.*

(Full Summary: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/s3536> )

Sponsor: Sen. Amy Klobuchar [D-MN] Introduced: October 2, 2018

**H.R. 7022: To provide for greater transparency in the HUD-VASH supported housing program for homeless veterans, and for other purposes.**

Summary: *A bill to amend the Economic Growth, Regulatory Relief, and Consumer Protection Act to clarify seasoning requirements for certain refinanced mortgage loans, and for other purposes.*

(Full Summary: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/hr7022>)

Sponsor: Rep. Scott Peters [D-CA52]

Introduced: October 2, 2018

**H.R. 7022: To provide for greater transparency in the HUD-VASH supported housing program for homeless veterans, and for other purposes.**

Summary: *A bill to amend the Economic Growth, Regulatory Relief, and Consumer Protection Act to clarify seasoning requirements for certain refinanced mortgage loans, and for other purposes.*

(Full Summary: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/hr7022>)

Sponsor: Rep. Scott Peters [D-CA52]

Introduced: October 2, 2018

**H.R. 7013: To direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to carry out a pilot program to improve the ability of Members of Congress to assist constituents with respect to benefits for veterans.**

Summary: *As stated.*

(Full Summary: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/hr7013>)

Sponsor: Rep. Andy Biggs [R-AZ5]

Introduced: October 2, 2018

**S. 3528: Care for Veterans Act of 2018**

Summary: *A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to furnish hospital care and medical services to veterans, members of the reserve components of the Armed Forces, and dependents who were stationed at Wurtsmith Air Force Base in Oscoda, Michigan, and were exposed to volatile organic compounds, to provide for a presumption of service connection for those veterans and members of the reserve components, and for other purposes.*

(Full Summary: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/s3528>)

Sponsor: Sen. Debbie Stabenow [D-MI]

Introduced: September 28, 2018

**H.R. 6994: Care for Veterans Act of 2018**

Summary: *To amend title 38, United States Code, to furnish hospital care and medical services to veterans, members of the reserve components of the Armed Forces, and dependents who were stationed at Wurtsmith Air Force Base in Oscoda, Michigan, and were exposed to volatile organic compounds, to provide for a presumption of service connection for those veterans and members of the reserve components, and for other purposes.*

(Full Summary: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/hr6994>)

Sponsor: Rep. Daniel Kildee [D-MI5]

Introduced: September 28, 2018

**H.R. 6993: VET PFAS Act**

Summary: *To amend title 38, United States Code, to furnish hospital care and medical services to veterans and dependents who were stationed at military installations at which the veterans and dependents were exposed to perfluorooctanoic acid or other per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances, to provide for a presumption of service connection for certain veterans who were stationed at military installations at which the veterans were exposed to such substances, and for other purposes.*

(Full Summary: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/hr6993>)

Sponsor: Rep. Daniel Kildee [D-MI5]

Introduced: September 28, 2018

### **H.R. 6996: Veterans Right to Expediency Act**

Summary: *To amend title 38, United States Code, to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to deliver notice of the denial of claims for benefits under the laws administered by the Secretary by certified mail, and for other purposes.*

(Full Summary: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/hr6996>)

Sponsor: Rep. Robert Latta [R-OH5]

Introduced: September 28, 2018

### **S. 3529: VET PFAS Act**

Summary: A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to furnish hospital care and medical services to veterans, members of the reserve components of the Armed Forces, and dependents who were stationed at military installations at which they were exposed to perfluorooctanoic acid or other per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances, to provide for a presumption of service connection for those veterans and members of the reserve components, and for other purposes.

(Full Summary: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/s3529>)

Sponsor: Sen. Debbie Stabenow [D-MI]

Introduced: September 28, 2018

### **H.R. 6941: Agent Orange Exposure Fairness Act**

Summary: *To extend the authority of the Secretary of Veterans Affairs regarding presumptions of service connection for diseases associated with exposure to herbicide agents, and for other purposes.*

(Full Summary: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/hr6941>)

Sponsor: Rep. Charlie Crist [D-FL13]

Introduced: September 27, 2018

### **H.R. 6963: Dental Care for Low-Income Veterans Act**

Summary: *To amend title 38, United States Code, to expand the eligibility of low-income veterans to receive dental care.*

(Full Summary: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/hr6963>)

Sponsor: Rep. Scott Tipton [R-CO3]

Introduced: September 27, 2018

### **H.R. 6959: Burn Pit Registry Enhancement Act**

Summary: *To direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to take actions necessary to ensure that certain individuals may update the burn pit registry with a registered individual's cause of death, and for other purposes.*

(Full Summary: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/hr6959>)

Sponsor: Rep. Raul Ruiz [D-CA36]

Introduced: September 27, 2018

### **H.R. 6959: Burn Pit Registry Enhancement Act**

Summary: *To direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to take actions necessary to ensure that certain individuals may update the burn pit registry with a registered individual's cause of death, and for other purposes.*

(Full Summary: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/hr6959>)

Sponsor: Rep. Raul Ruiz [D-CA36]

Introduced: September 27, 2018

### **H.R. 6940: Veterans Small Business Enhancement Act of 2018**

Summary: *To provide access to and manage the distribution of excess or surplus property to veteran-owned small businesses.*

(Full Summary: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/hr6940>)

Sponsor: Rep. Paul Cook [R-CA8]

Introduced: September 27, 2018

### **S. 3523: Full Military Honors Act of 2018**

Summary: *A bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to require a full military honors ceremony for certain deceased veterans, and for other purposes.*

(Full Summary: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/s3523>)

Sponsor: Sen. Tom Cotton [R-AR]

Introduced: September 27, 2018

**S. 3507: A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to extend the authority of the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to prescribe regulations providing that a presumption of service connection is warranted for a disease with a positive association with exposure to a herbicide agent, and for other purposes.**

Summary: *As stated*

(Full Summary: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/s3507>)

Sponsor: Sen. Sherrod Brown [D-OH]

Introduced: September 26, 2018

**S. 3501: Ensuring Quality Care for our Veterans Act**

Summary: *A bill to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to enter into a contract or other agreement with a third party to review appointees in the Veterans Health Administration who had a license terminated for cause by a State licensing board for care or services rendered at a non-Veterans Health Administration facility and providing individuals treated by such an appointee with notice if it is determined that an episode of care or services to which they received was below the standard of care, and for other purposes.*

(Full Summary: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/s3501>)

Sponsor: Sen. Joni Ernst [R-IA]

Introduced: September 26, 2018

**H.R. 6911: To amend the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act to prohibit the enforcement of certain policies of homeowners associations regarding real property of servicemembers.**

Summary: *As stated.*

(Full Summary: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/hr6911>)

Sponsor: Rep. Scott DesJarlais [R-TN4]

Introduced: September 26, 2018

**H.R. 6908: PAWS Act of 2018**

Summary: *To amend title 38, United States Code, to authorize the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to provide service dogs to veterans with mental illnesses who do not have mobility impairments.*

(Full Summary: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/hr6908>)

Sponsor: Rep. Steve Stivers [R-OH15]

Introduced: September 26, 2018

**H.R. 6867: To improve the leasing projects of the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes.**

Summary: *As stated.*

(Full Summary: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/hr6867>)

Sponsor: Rep. Derek Kilmer [D-WA6]

Introduced: September 25, 2018

**H.R. 6869: Violence Against Women Veterans Act**

Summary: *To require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to improve the provision of services and benefits from the Department of Veterans Affairs for veterans who experience domestic violence or sexual assault, and for other purposes.*

(Full Summary: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/hr6869>)

Sponsor: Rep. Nydia Velázquez [D-NY7]

Introduced: September 25, 2018

**H.R. 6848: VA Safe Opioid Return Act**

Summary: *To direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to ensure that certain Department of Veterans Affairs medical centers have physical locations for the disposal of controlled substances medications.*

(Full Summary: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/hr6848>)

Sponsor: Rep. Mike Bishop [R-MI8]

Introduced: September 20, 2018

**H.R. 6860: GI Bill Transfer Extension Act**

Summary: *To amend title 38, United States Code, to extend the period in which members of the uniformed services may transfer entitlement to educational assistance under Post-9/11 Educational Assistance Program, and for other purposes.*

(Full Summary: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/hr6860>)

Sponsor: Rep. Scott Taylor [R-VA2]

Introduced: September 20, 2018

**H.Res. 1075: Expressing support for designation of the week of September 23 through September 29, 2018, as “Gold Star Families Remembrance Week”.**

Summary: *As stated.*

(Full Summary: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/hres1075>)

Sponsor: Rep. Christopher “Chris” Smith [R-NJ4]

Introduced: September 20, 2018

**S. 3469: A bill to provide for the inclusion on the Vietnam Veterans Memorial of the names for the crew members of the U.S.S. Frank E. Evans killed on June 3, 1969.**

Summary: *As stated.*

(Full Summary: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/s3469>)

Sponsor: Sen. Patrick “Pat” Toomey [R-PA]

Introduced: September 18, 2018

**S. 3447: GI Bill Comparison Tool Improvement Act of 2018**

Summary: *A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to provide information about whether educational institutions allow individuals to stay enrolled in courses of education pending receipt of educational assistance from the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes.*

(Full Summary: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/s3447>)

Sponsor: Sen. Mike Rounds [R-SD]

Introduced: September 17, 2018

**H.R. 6815: Military Learning for Credit Act of 2018**

Summary: *To authorize the use of veterans educational assistance for examinations and assessments to receive credit toward degrees awarded by institutions of higher learning, and for other purposes.*

(Full Summary: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/hr6815>)

Sponsor: Rep. Conor Lamb [D-PA18]

Introduced: September 13, 2018

**H.R. 6769: GI Bill Transfer Extension Act**

Summary: *To amend title 38, United States Code, to extend the period in which members of the uniformed services may transfer entitlement to educational assistance under Post-9/11 Educational Assistance Program, and for other purposes.*

(Full Summary: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/hr6769>)

Sponsor: Rep. Scott Taylor [R-VA2]

Introduced: September 10, 2018

**H.R. 6766: Veterans Resource Center Act of 2018**

Summary: *To authorize the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to make grants to public institutions of higher education for the establishment of Veterans Resource Centers, and for other purposes.*

(Full Summary: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/hr6766>)

Sponsor: Rep. Jimmy Panetta [D-CA20]

Introduced: September 10, 2018

**H.R. 6734: Full Military Honors Act of 2018**

Summary: *To amend title 10, United States Code, to require a full military honors ceremony for certain deceased veterans, and for other purposes.*

(Full Summary: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/hr6734>)

Sponsor: Rep. Mike Bishop [R-MI8]

Introduced: September 7, 2018

### **S. 3415: Keeping Our Commitment to Overseas Veterans Act of 2018**

Summary: *A bill to extend, for a period of two years, the authority for operation of the Department of Veterans Affairs regional office in Manila, the Republic of the Philippines.*

(Full Summary: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/s3415>)

Sponsor: Sen. Mazie Hirono [D-HI]

Introduced: September 6, 2018

### **S. 3417: Veterans Health Care Staffing Improvement Act**

Summary: *A bill to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to carry out a program to increase efficiency in the recruitment and hiring by the Department of Veterans Affairs of health care workers that are undergoing separation from the Armed Forces, to create uniform credentialing standards for certain health care professionals of the Department, and for other purposes.*

(Full Summary: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/s3417>)

Sponsor: Sen. Jeff Merkley [D-OR]

Introduced: September 6, 2018

### **S. 3419: Keeping Our Commitment to Ending Veteran Homelessness Act of 2018**

Summary: *A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to extend authorities relating to homeless veterans, and for other purposes.*

(Full Summary: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/s3419>)

Sponsor: Sen. Mazie Hirono [D-HI]

Introduced: September 6, 2018

### **S. 3409: Veterans Medical Marijuana Safe Harbor Act**

Summary: *A bill to allow veterans to use, possess, or transport medical marijuana and to discuss the use of medical marijuana with a physician of the Department of Veterans Affairs as authorized by State law, and for other purposes.*

(Full Summary: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/s3409>)

Sponsor: Sen. Bill Nelson [D-FL]

Introduced: September 5, 2018

### **H.R. 6712: Warrior Wellness Act**

Summary: *To direct the Secretary of Defense to develop a strategy to recruit and retain mental health providers, to direct the Secretaries of the military departments to develop medication monitoring programs, and for other purposes.*

(Full Summary: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/hr6712>)

Sponsor: Rep. Lloyd Smucker [R-PA16]

Introduced: September 5, 2018

### **S. 3395: Supporting Veterans in STEM Careers Act**

Summary: *A bill to promote veteran involvement in STEM education, computer science, and scientific research, and for other purposes.*

(Full Summary: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/s3395>)

Sponsor: Sen. Dean Heller [R-NV]

Introduced: August 28, 2018

### **H.R. 6679: Veterans VOW Act**

Summary: *To amend title 38, United States Code, to provide payment of Medal of Honor special pension under such title to the surviving spouse of a deceased Medal of Honor recipient, and for other purposes.*

(Full Summary: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/hr6679>)

Sponsor: Rep. Conor Lamb [D-PA18]

Introduced: August 24, 2018

### **S. 3373: Palomares Veterans Act of 2018**

Summary: *A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to provide for a presumption of service connected disability for certain veterans who served in Palomares, Spain, and for other purposes.*

(Full Summary: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/s3373>)

Sponsor: Sen. Richard Blumenthal [D-CT]

Introduced: August 23, 2018

### **S. 3355: Agent Orange Exposure Fairness Act of 2018**

Summary: *A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to remove the manifestation period required for the presumptions of service connection for chloracne, porphyria cutanea tarda, and acute and subacute peripheral neuropathy associated with exposure to certain herbicide agents, and for other purposes.*

(Full Summary: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/s3355>)

Sponsor: Sen. Richard Blumenthal [D-CT]

Introduced: August 21, 2018

### **H.R. 6661: Charitable Equity for Veterans Act of 2018**

Summary: *To amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for the deductibility of charitable contributions to certain organizations for members of the Armed Forces.*

(Full Summary: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/hr6661>)

Sponsor: Rep. Brad Wenstrup [R-OH2]

Introduced: August 10, 2018

### **S. 3322: American Aviator Act**

Summary: *A bill to establish a pilot program to provide flight training services to veterans.*

(Full Summary: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/s3322>)

Sponsor: Rep. Brad Wenstrup [R-OH2]

Introduced: August 1, 2018

### **S. 3328: Student Veterans Housing Act**

Summary: *A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to enhance the payment of monthly housing stipends under the Post-9/11 Veterans Educational Assistance Program, and for other purposes.*

(Full Summary: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/s3328>)

Sponsor: Sen. Debbie Stabenow [D-MI]

Introduced: August 1, 2018

### **S. 3318: Military Learning for Credit Act of 2018**

Summary: *A bill to authorize the use of veterans educational assistance for examinations to receive credit toward degrees awarded by institutions of higher learning, and for other purposes.*

(Full Summary: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/s3318>)

Sponsor: Sen. Chris Coons [D-DE]

Introduced: August 1, 2018

### **S. 3310: A bill to require the Secretary of Labor to award grants to organizations for the provision of transition assistance to members of the Armed Forces who are separated, retired, or discharged from the Armed Forces, and spouses of such members, and for other purposes.**

Summary: *As stated.*

(Full Summary: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/s3310>)

Sponsor: Sen. Michael Bennet [D-CO]

Introduced: July 31, 2018

### **S. 3302: VA Hiring Enhancement Act**

Summary: *A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to provide for the non-applicability of non-Department of Veterans Affairs covenants not to compete to the appointment of physicians in the Veterans Health Administration, and for other purpose.*

(Full Summary: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/s3302>)

Sponsor: Sen. John Boozman [R-AR]

Introduced: July 31, 2018

### **S. 3313: Veterans Dental Care Eligibility Expansion and Enhancement Act of 2018**

Summary: *A bill to improve dental care provided to veterans by the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes.*

(Full Summary: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/s3313>)

Sponsor: Sen. Bernard "Bernie" Sanders [I-VT]

Introduced: July 31, 2018

### **S. 3299: IMPROVE Transition for Servicemembers Act**

Summary: *A bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to improve the Transition Assistance Program for members of the Armed Forces, and for other purposes.*

(Full Summary: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/s3299>)

Sponsor: Sen. Michael Crapo [R-ID]

Introduced: July 30, 2018

### **S. 3298: Vietnam Veterans Memorial Visitor Center Extension Act**

Summary: *A bill to extend the authority of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund, Inc., to establish a visitor center for the Vietnam Veterans Memorial.*

(Full Summary: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/s3298>)

Sponsor: Sen. Steve Daines [R-MT]

Introduced: July 30, 2018

### **H.R. 6582: Protection for Veterans' Burn Pit Exposure Act of 2018**

Summary: *To amend title 38, United States Code, to establish presumptions of service connection for illnesses associated with open burn pits, to direct the Comptroller of the United States to establish the Open Burn Pit Advisory Commission, and for other purposes.*

(Full Summary: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/hr6582>)

Sponsor: Rep. Gus Bilirakis [R-FL12]

Introduced: July 26, 2018

### **H.R. 6603: Service Disabled Veteran Infrastructure Investment Parity Act**

Summary: *To amend the FAST Act to ensure that certain veteran small businesses are eligible for funding as small business concerns.*

(Full Summary: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/hr6603>)

Sponsor: Rep. Blaine Luetkemeyer [R-MO3]

Introduced: July 26, 2018

### **H.R. 6572: Homeless Veterans Community Care Act of 2018**

Summary: *To amend title 38, United States Code, to include Federally qualified health centers and primary care associations in efforts to assist homeless veterans, and for other purposes.*

(Full Summary: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/hr6572>)

Sponsor: Rep. Christopher "Chris" Smith [R-NJ4]

Introduced: July 26, 2018

### **H.R. 6581: Increasing Veteran Access to Colorectal Cancer Screening Act of 2018**

Summary: *To direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to adopt certain strategies for preventive colorectal screenings for veterans, and for other purposes.*

(Full Summary: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/hr6581>)

Sponsor: Rep. Jack Bergman [R-MI1]

Introduced: July 26, 2018

### **H.R. 6539: Veterans Health Care Staffing Improvement Act**

Summary: *To require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to carry out a program to increase efficiency in the recruitment and hiring by the Department of Veterans Affairs of health care workers that are undergoing separation from the Armed Forces, to create uniform credentialing standards for certain health care professionals of the Department, and for other purposes.*

(Full Summary: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/hr6539>)

Sponsor: Rep. Peter DeFazio [D-OR4]

Introduced: July 26, 2018

### **H.R. 6566: Agent Orange Exposure Fairness Act**

Summary: *To amend title 38, United States Code, to remove the manifestation period required for the presumptions of service connection for chloracne, porphyria cutanea tarda, and acute and subacute peripheral neuropathy associated with exposure to certain herbicide agents.*

(Full Summary: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/hr6566>)

Sponsor: Rep. Joe Courtney [D-CT2]

Introduced: July 26, 2018

### **H.R. 6637: Vietnam Veterans Liver Fluke Cancer Study Act**

Summary: *To direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to study and report on the prevalence of cholangiocarcinoma in veterans of the Vietnam era, and for other purposes.*

(Full Summary: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/hr6637>)

Sponsor: Rep. Lee Zeldin [R-NY1]

Introduced: July 26, 2018

### **S. 3269: Department of Veterans Affairs Tribal Advisory Committee Act of 2018**

Summary: *A bill to establish the Department of Veterans Affairs Advisory Committee on Tribal and Indian Affairs, and for other purposes.*

(Full Summary: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/s3269>)

Sponsor: Sen. Jon Tester [D-MT]

Introduced: July 26, 2018

### **H.R. 6500: VET-2-FARM Act of 2018**

Summary: *To expand the availability of programs of the Department of Agriculture to veteran farmers and ranchers, and for other purposes.*

(Full Summary: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/hr6500>)

Sponsor: Rep. Brad Wenstrup [R-OH2]

Introduced: July 24, 2018

### **H.Res. 1025: Expressing support for policies that maintain a robust, fully-funded and staffed Veterans Health Administration of the Department of Veterans Affairs and do not jeopardize care for veterans by moving essential resources to the private sector.**

Summary: *As stated.*

(Full Summary: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/hres1025>)

Sponsor: Rep. Mark Takano [D-CA41]

Introduced: July 24, 2018

### **S. 3241: Gold Star Spouses Leasing Relief Act**

Summary: *A bill to amend the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act to provide for the termination by a spouse of a lessee of certain leases when the lessee dies while in military service.*

(Full Summary: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/s3241>)

Sponsor: Sen. Elizabeth Warren [D-MA]

Introduced: July 19, 2018

### **H.R. 6418: VA Website Accessibility Act of 2018**

Summary: *To direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to conduct a study regarding the accessibility of websites of the Department of Veterans Affairs to individuals with disabilities.*

(Full Summary: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/hr6418>)

Sponsor: Rep. Elizabeth Esty [D-CT5]

Introduced: July 18, 2018

### **H.R. 6419: Justice for ALS Veterans Act of 2018**

Summary: *To amend title 38, United States Code, to extend increased dependency and indemnity compensation paid to surviving spouses of veterans who die from amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, regardless of how long the veterans had such disease prior to death.*

(Full Summary: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/hr6419>)

Sponsor: Rep. Elizabeth Esty [D-CT5]

Introduced: July 18, 2018

### **S. 3235: Veterans Hearing Benefits Act of 2018**

Summary: *A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to establish a presumption of service-connection for certain veterans with tinnitus or hearing loss, and for other purposes.*

(Full Summary: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/s3235>)

Sponsor: Sen. Tina Smith [D-MN]

Introduced: July 18, 2018

**H.R. 6420: To permit the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to establish a grant program to conduct cemetery research and produce educational materials for the Veterans Legacy Program.**

Summary: *As stated.*

(Full Summary: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/hr6420>)

Sponsor: Rep. Conor Lamb [D-PA18]

Introduced: July 18, 2018

**H.R. 6409: Honoring Veterans' Families Act**

Summary: *To amend title 38, United States Code, to authorize the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to provide inscriptions for spouses and children on certain headstones and markers furnished by the Secretary.*

(Full Summary: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/hr6409>)

Sponsor: Rep. Doug LaMalfa [R-CA1]

Introduced: July 17, 2018

**H.R. 6392: Hire Student Veterans Act**

Summary: *To amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide the work opportunity tax credit with respect to hiring veterans who are receiving educational assistance under laws administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs or Defense.*

(Full Summary: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/hr6392>)

Sponsor: Rep. Jacky Rosen [D-NV3]

Introduced: July 17, 2018

**S. 3201: Purple Heart and Disabled Veterans Equal Access Act of 2018**

Summary: *A bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to extend certain morale, welfare, and recreation privileges to certain veterans and their caregivers, and for other purposes.*

(Full Summary: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/s3201>)

Sponsor: Sen. Brian Schatz [D-HI]

Introduced: July 12, 2018

## **Tracking (introduced in previous reports)**

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**S. 3187: RAISE VET FUND Act**

Summary: *A bill to authorize veterans service organizations to solicit donations at post offices before and after Federal holidays.*

(Full Summary: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/s3187>)

Sponsor: Sen. Schumer, Charles E. [D-NY]

Introduced: July 10, 2018

Last Action – July 10 – Referred to Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

**S.3184 - A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to modify the requirements for applications for construction of State home facilities to increase the maximum percentage of nonveterans allowed to be treated at such facilities, and for other purposes.**

Summary: *As stated.*

(Full Summary: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/s3184>)

Sponsor: Sen. Bennet, Michael F. [D-CO]

Introduced: July 9, 2018

Last Action – August 1 – Referred to Committee on Veterans Affairs. Hearings Held.

**H.R. 6263: United States Army Rangers Veterans of World War II Congressional Gold Medal Act**

Summary: *To award a Congressional Gold Medal, collectively, to the United States Army Rangers Veterans of World War II in recognition of their extraordinary service during World War II.*

(Full Summary: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/hr6263>)

Sponsor: Rep. Black, Diane [R-TN-6]

Introduced: June 28, 2018

Last Action – June 28<sup>th</sup> – Referred to Committee on Financial Services.

### **H.R. 6285: VETS Act**

Summary: *To authorize the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to carry out a major medical facility project in Jacksonville, Florida.*

(Full Summary: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/hr6285> )

Sponsor: Rep. Lawson, Al, Jr. [D-FL-5] Introduced: June 28, 2018

Last Action – June 28th – Referred to Committee on Health.

### **S. 3175: Thailand Veteran Agent Orange Parity Act of 2018**

Summary: *A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to provide health care, vocational training and rehabilitation, and monetary allowance to children suffering from spina bifida whose parents are veterans who served in Thailand and were exposed to herbicide agents, and for other purposes.*

(Full Summary: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/s3175> )

Sponsor: Sen. McCaskill, Claire [D-MO] Introduced: June 28, 2018

Last Action – June 28th – Referred to Committee on Veterans Affairs.

### **S. 3166: United States Army Rangers Veterans of World War II Congressional Gold Medal Act**

Summary: *A bill to award a Congressional Gold Medal, collectively, to the United States Army Rangers Veterans of World War II in recognition of their extraordinary service during World War II.*

(Full Summary: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/s3166> )

Sponsor: Sen. Ernst, Joni [R-IA] Introduced: June 28, 2018

Last Action – June 28th – Referred to Committee on Banking, Housing & Urban Affairs.

### **S. 3181: Burn Pits Accountability Act**

Summary: *A bill to direct the Secretary of Defense to include in periodic health assessments, separation history and physical examinations, and other assessments an evaluation of whether a member of the Armed Forces has been exposed to open burn pits or toxic airborne chemicals, and for other purposes.*

(Full Summary: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/s3181> )

Sponsor: Sen. Klobuchar, Amy [D-MN] Introduced: June 28, 2018

Last Action – June 28th – Referred to Committee on Armed Services.

### **H.R. 6271: Fulfilling Obligations to Families of the Fallen Act**

Summary: *To amend title 38, United States Code, to require notarized acknowledgment by the spouse of a member of the Armed Forces who is eligible for insurance under the Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance Program before the member may elect not to be insured under such Program, to be insured under the Program for an amount less than the maximum amount, or to designate a beneficiary other than the member's spouse or child.*

(Full Summary: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/hr6271> )

Sponsor: Rep. Hunter, Duncan D. [R-CA-50] Introduced: June 28, 2018

Last Action – June 28th – Referred to Subcommittee on Disability Assistance and Memorial Affairs.

### **H.R. 6281: Veterans FAIR Act of 2018**

Summary: *To amend title 10, United States Code, to expand the circumstances under which participants may elect to discontinue participation in the Survivor Benefits Plan, and for other purposes.*

(Full Summary: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/hr6281> )

Sponsor: Rep. Gonzalez, Vicente [D-TX-15] Introduced: June 28, 2018

Last Action – June 28th – Referred to Subcommittee on Military Personnel.

### **H.R. 6234: Veterans Legal Support Act of 2018**

Summary: *To authorize the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to provide support to university law school programs that are designed to provide legal assistance to veterans, and for other purposes.*

(Full Summary: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/hr6234> )

Sponsor: Rep. Norton, Eleanor Holmes [D-DC-At Large] Introduced: June 26, 2018

Last Action – June 28th – Referred to Subcommittee on Disability Assistance and Memorial Affairs.

### **S. 3136: Hello Girls' Congressional Gold Medal Act of 2018**

Summary: *A bill to award a Congressional Gold Medal to the female telephone operators of the Army Signal Corps, known as the "Hello Girls".*

(Full Summary: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/s3136>)

Sponsor: Sen. Tester, Jon [D-MT]

Introduced: June 26, 2018

Last Action – June 26th – Referred to Committee on Banking, Housing & Urban Affairs.

### **S. 3130: SIT-REP Act of 2018**

Summary: *A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to provide for the disapproval of any course of education for purposes of the educational assistance programs of the Department of Veterans Affairs unless the educational institution providing the course permits individuals to attend or participate in courses pending payment by Department, and for other purposes.*

(Full Summary: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/s3130>)

Sponsor: Sen. Warren, Elizabeth [D-MA]

Introduced: June 25, 2018

Last Action – June 25th – Referred to Committee on Veterans Affairs.

### **H.R. 6161: To amend title 38, United States Code, to waive fees for Purple Heart recipients serving on active duty for loans guaranteed under the home loan program of Department of Veterans Affairs.**

Summary: *As stated.*

(Full Summary: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/hr6161> )

Sponsor: Rep. Herrera Beutler, Jaime [R-WA-3]

Introduced: June 20, 2018

Last Action – June 20th – Referred to Subcommittee on Economic Opportunity.

### **H.R. 6151: VA Act of 2018**

Summary: *To direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to notify qualifying veterans of a covered change of service reducing or eliminating a medical service provided at a medical facility of the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes.*

(Full Summary: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/hr6151> )

Sponsor: Rep. Donovan, Daniel M., Jr. [R-NY-11]

Introduced: June 19, 2018

Last Action – June 19th – Referred to Subcommittee on Health.

### **S. 3088: Energy Jobs for our Heroes Act of 2018**

Summary: *A bill to amend the Energy Policy Act of 2005 to require the Secretary of Energy to establish a program to prepare veterans for careers in the energy industry, including the solar, wind, cybersecurity, and other low-carbon emissions sectors or zero-emissions sectors of the energy industry, and for other purposes.*

(Full Summary: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/s3088> )

Sponsor: Sen. Duckworth, Tammy [D-IL]

Introduced: June 19, 2018

Last Action – June 19th – Referred to Committee on Energy & Natural Resources.

### **S. 3089: Veterans' Compensation Cost-of-Living Adjustment Act of 2018**

Summary: *A bill to provide for an increase, effective December 1, 2018, in the rates of compensation for veterans with service-connected disabilities and the rates of dependency and indemnity compensation for the survivors of certain disabled veterans, and for other purposes.*

(Full Summary: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/s3089> )

Sponsor: Sen. Isakson, Johnny [R-GA]

Introduced: June 19, 2018

Last Action – June 19th – Referred to Committee on Veterans Affairs.

### **H.Res. 947: Expressing support for the designation of July 9 as "Warrant Officer Day".**

Summary: *As stated.*

(Full Summary: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/hres947> )

Sponsor: Rep. Roby, Martha [R-AL-2]

Introduced: June 19, 2018

Last Action – June 19th – Referred to Subcommittee on Military Personnel.

### **H.R. 6101: VA Personnel Equity Act of 2018**

Summary: *To amend titles 5 and 38, United States Code, to ensure that certain employees of the Department of Veterans Affairs are subject to the same removal, demotion, and suspension policies as other employees of the Federal Government, and for other purposes.*

(Full Summary: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/hr6101>)

Sponsor: Rep. Fitzpatrick, Brian K. [R-PA-8] Introduced: June 14, 2018

Last Action – June 14th – Referred to Subcommittee on Economic Opportunity.

### **H.R. 6118: To direct the Secretary of the Interior to annually designate at least one city in the United States as an “American World War II Heritage City”, and for other purposes.**

Summary: *As stated.*

(Full Summary: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/hr6118>)

Sponsor: Rep. Rouzer, David [R-NC-7] Introduced: June 14, 2018

Last Action – September 26th – Ordered to be reported by unanimous consent.

### **S. 3062: VET-2-FARM Act of 2018**

Summary: *A bill to amend the Department of Agriculture Reorganization Act of 1994 to require the Military Veterans Agricultural Liaison to provide certain outreach to veterans with respect to agricultural employment, and for other purposes.*

(Full Summary: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/s3062>)

Sponsor: Sen. Smith, Tina [D-MN] Introduced: June 13, 2018

Last Action – June 13th – Referred to Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition & Forestry.

### **H.R. 6066: To amend title 38, United States Code, to improve the productivity of the management of Department of Veterans Affairs health care, and for other purposes.**

Summary: *As stated.*

(Full Summary: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/hr6066>)

Sponsor: Rep. Wenstrup, Brad R. [R-OH-2] Introduced: June 8, 2018

Last Action – July 12th – Ordered to be reported (amended) by Voice Vote.

### **H.R. 6027: Family Member Access to Burn Pit Registry Act**

Summary: *To direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to provide a process by which a family member of a deceased individual who is eligible for the Department of Veterans Affairs burn pit registry may register for such registry on behalf of the deceased individual.*

(Full Summary: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/hr6027>)

Sponsor: Rep. Castro, Joaquin [D-TX-20] Introduced: June 7, 2018

Last Action – June 14th – Referred to Subcommittee on Health.

### **H.R. 6013: Migratory Bird Framework and Hunting Opportunities for Veterans Act**

Summary: *To amend the Migratory Bird Treaty Act to establish January 31 of each year as the Federal closing date for duck hunting season and to establish special duck hunting days for youths, veterans, and active military personnel, and for other purposes.*

(Full Summary: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/hr6013>)

Sponsor: Rep. Bishop, Rob [R-UT-1] Introduced: June 6, 2018

Last Action – September 26th – Passed House – Received in Senate and referred to Committee on Environment & Public Works.

### **H.R. 5993: Fixing Housing Access Act of 2018**

Summary: *To amend title 31, United States Code, to provide for certain limitations and clarifications on false claims and civil actions related to Federal Housing Administration programs, Veteran Administration, and for other purposes.*

(Full Summary: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/hr5993>)

Sponsor: Rep. Gottheimer, Josh [D-NJ-5] Introduced: June 1, 2018

Last Action – July 24th – Referred to Subcommittee on Constitution & Civil Justice.

### **H.R. 5986: Bill Mulder and Ryan Larkin Posttraumatic Growth Act**

Summary: *To direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to conduct a pilot program on posttraumatic growth, and for other purposes.*

(Full Summary: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/hr5986>)

Sponsor: Rep. Taylor, Scott [R-VA-2] Introduced: May 29, 2018

Last Action – May 29th – Referred to Committee on Veterans Affairs.

### **H.R. 5974: VA COST SAVINGS Enhancements Act**

Summary: *To direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to use on-site regulated medical waste treatment systems at certain Department of Veterans Affairs facilities, and for other purposes.*

(Full Summary: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/hr5974>)

Sponsor: Rep. Lawson, Al, Jr. [D-FL-5] Introduced: May 25, 2018

Last Action – July 25th – Passed House. Referred to Committee on Veterans Affairs.

### **H.R. 5981: To amend title 44, United States Code, to prohibit the Archivist from charging certain fees to veterans for destroyed records regarding such veterans, and for other purposes.**

Summary: *As stated.*

(Full Summary: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/hr5981>)

Sponsor: Rep. Smith, Christopher H. [R-NJ-4] Introduced: May 25, 2018

Last Action – May 25th – Referred to Committee on Oversight & Governmental Reform.

### **S. 2950: Veteran Entrepreneurs Act of 2018**

Summary: *A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow credits for the establishment of franchises by veterans.*

(Full Summary: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/s2950>)

Sponsor: Sen. Casey, Robert P., Jr. [D-PA] Introduced: May 24, 2018

Last Action – May 24th – Referred to Committee on Finance.

### **H.R. 5966: Women Veterans Access to Quality Care Act of 2018**

Summary: *To improve the provision of health care for women veterans by the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes.*

(Full Summary: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/hr5966>)

Sponsor: Rep. Keating, William R. [D-MA-9] Introduced: May 24, 2018

Last Action – May 24th – Referred to Subcommittee on Health.

### **H.R. 5951: Veterans Crisis Response Corps Act of 2018**

Summary: *To establish the Veterans Crisis Response Corps, and for other purposes.*

(Full Summary: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/hr5951>)

Sponsor: Rep. Schiff, Adam B. [D-CA-28] Introduced: May 23, 2018

Last Action – May 23rd – Referred to Subcommittee on Military Personnel.

### **H.R. 5938: Veterans Serving Veterans Act of 2018**

Summary: *To amend the VA Choice and Quality Employment Act to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to establish a vacancy and recruitment database to facilitate the recruitment of certain members of the Armed Forces to satisfy the occupational needs of the Department of Veterans Affairs, to establish and implement a training and certification program for intermediate care technicians in that Department, and for other purposes.*

(Full Summary: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/hr5938>)

Sponsor: Rep. Gonzalez-Colon, Jenniffer [R-PR-At Large] Introduced: May 23, 2018

Last Action – July 25th – Passed House. In Senate.

### **S. 2906: VA MISSION Act of 2018**

Summary: *A bill to establish a permanent community care program for veterans, to improve the recruitment of health care providers of the Department of Veterans Affairs, to improve construction by the Department, and for other purposes.*

(Full Summary: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/s2906>)

Sponsor: Sen. Manchin, Joe, III [D-WV] Introduced: May 22, 2018

Last Action – May 22nd – Referred to Committee on Veterans Affairs.

### **H.R. 5920: Airborne Hazards and Open Burn Pit Registry Improvement Act**

Summary: *To direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs and the Secretary of Defense to submit to Congress an annual report on open burn pits, and for other purposes.*

(Full Summary: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/hr5920>)

Sponsor: Rep. Shea-Porter, Carol [D-NH-1] Introduced: May 22, 2018

Last Action – May 22nd – Referred to Subcommittee on Military Personnel.

### **H.R. 5918: Department of Defense Service Dog Training Therapy Act**

Summary: *To direct the Secretary of Defense to carry out a program on service dog training for members of the Armed Forces with post-traumatic stress disorder or other post-deployment mental health conditions.*

(Full Summary: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/hr5918>)

Sponsor: Rep. Shea-Porter, Carol [D-NH-1] Introduced: May 22, 2018

Last Action – May 22nd – Referred to Subcommittee on Military Personnel.

### **H.R. 5921: PFAS Registry Act**

Summary: *To direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to establish a registry to ensure that members of the Armed Forces who may have been exposed to per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances on military installations receive information regarding such exposure, and for other purposes.*

(Full Summary: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/hr5921>)

Sponsor: Rep. Shea-Porter, Carol [D-NH-1] Introduced: May 22, 2018

Last Action – May 22nd – Referred to Subcommittee on Military Personnel.

### **H.R. 5922: Vietnam-Era Veterans Hepatitis C Testing Enhancement Act of 2018**

Summary: *To direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to carry out a pilot program to increase access to hepatitis C testing for Vietnam-era veterans, and for other purposes.*

(Full Summary: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/hr5922>)

Sponsor: Rep. Stefanik, Elise M. [R-NY-21] Introduced: May 22, 2018

Last Action – May 22nd – Referred to Subcommittee on Health.

### **H.R. 5882: Gold Star Spouses Leasing Relief Act**

Summary: *To amend the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act to provide for the termination by a spouse of a lessee of certain leases when the lessee dies while in military service.*

(Full Summary: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/hr5882>)

Sponsor: Rep. Bustos, Cheri [D-IL-17] Introduced: May 18, 2018

Last Action – July 25th – Passed House. Referred to Senate Committee on Veterans Affairs.

### **S. 2884: Veterans Fair Debt Notice Act of 2018**

Summary: *A bill to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to develop a standard letter format to be provided to individuals who are indebted to the United States by virtue of their participation in benefits programs administered by the Secretary, to provide notice of debt by electronic means to such individuals when so elected, and for other purposes.*

(Full Summary: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/s2884>)

Sponsor: Sen. Fischer, Deb [R-NE] Introduced: May 17, 2018

Last Action – May 17th – Referred to Committee on Veterans Affairs.

### **H.R. 5864: VA Hospitals Establishing Leadership Performance Act**

Summary: *To direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to establish qualifications for the human resources positions within the Veterans Health Administration of the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes.*

(Full Summary: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/hr5864>)

Sponsor: Rep. Bost, Mike [R-IL-12] Introduced: May 18, 2018

Last Action – July 26th – Passed House. Referred to Senate Committee on Veterans Affairs.

**H.R. 5866: To amend title 38, United States Code, to authorize individuals who are pursuing programs of rehabilitation, education, or training under laws administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to receive work-study allowances for certain outreach services provided through congressional offices, ...**

Summary: *As stated.*

(Full Summary: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/hr5866>)

Sponsor: Rep. DeFazio, Peter A. [D-OR-4] Introduced: May 17, 2018

Last Action – May 17th – Referred to Committee on Veterans Affairs.

**S. 2883: Blast Exposure and Brain Injury Prevention Act**

Summary: *A bill to require the Secretary of Defense to submit a plan to improve research and development on therapies for traumatic brain injury and post-traumatic stress disorder, to document information on blast exposures in service records of military personnel, and for other purposes.*

(Full Summary: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/s2883>)

Sponsor: Sen. Warren, Elizabeth [D-MA] Introduced: May 17, 2018

Last Action – May 17th – Referred to Committee on Armed Service.

**S. 2881: A bill to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to seek to enter into an agreement with the city of Vallejo, California, for the transfer of Mare Island Naval Cemetery in Vallejo, California, and for other purposes.**

Summary: *As stated.*

(Full Summary: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/s2881>)

Sponsor: Sen. Feinstein, Dianne [D-CA] Introduced: May 17, 2018

Last Action – August 1st – Referred to Committee on Veterans Affairs.

**H.R. 5830: Veteran PEER Act**

Summary: To require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to carry out a program to establish peer specialists in patient aligned care teams at medical centers of the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes.

(Full Summary: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/hr5830>)

Sponsor: Rep. Peters, Scott H. [D-CA-52] Introduced: May 15, 2018

Last Action – May 15th – Referred to Committee on Veterans Affairs.

**S. 2839: Assist Socially Disadvantaged and Veteran Farmers and Ranchers Act of 2018**

Summary: *A bill to amend the Food, Agriculture, Conservation, and Trade Act of 1990 to improve assistance for socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers and veteran farmers and ranchers, and for other purposes.*

(Full Summary: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/s2839>)

Sponsor: Sen. Van Hollen, Chris [D-MD] Introduced: May 15, 2018

Last Action – May 15th – Referred to Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, & Forestry.

**H.R. 5829: VA Opioid Prescribing Rates Accountability Act**

Summary: *To direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to inform each physician of the Veterans Health Administration of the opioid prescribing rate of the physician and to require pain management training for the physicians with the highest opioid prescribing rates.*

(Full Summary: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/hr5829>)

Sponsor: Rep. Mullin, Markwayne [R-OK-2] Introduced: May 15, 2018

Last Action – May 15th – Referred to Committee on Veterans Affairs.

**H.R. 5805: To designate certain amounts authorized to be appropriated for the provision by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs of hospital care and medical services in non-Department of Veterans Affairs facilities pursuant to contracts as changes in concepts and definitions for certain budgetary purposes**

Summary: *To direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to inform each physician of the Veterans Health Administration of the opioid prescribing rate of the physician and to require pain management training for the physicians with the highest opioid prescribing rates.*

(Full Summary: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/hr5805>)

Sponsor: Rep. Lamb, Conor [D-PA-18] Introduced: May 15, 2018

Last Action – May 15th – Referred to Committee on Budget and Veterans Affairs.

### **H.R. 5829: VA Opioid Prescribing Rates Accountability Act**

Summary: *To direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to inform each physician of the Veterans Health Administration of the opioid prescribing rate of the physician and to require pain management training for the physicians with the highest opioid prescribing rates.*

(Full Summary: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/hr5829>)

Sponsor: Rep. Mullin, Markwayne [R-OK-2] Introduced: May 15, 2018

Last Action – May 15th – Referred to Committee on Veterans Affairs.

### **H.R. 5781: Students LIVE Act of 2018**

Summary: *To amend the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act to ensure that certain educational benefits administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs are treated as income by landlords evaluating the ability of a servicemember, veteran, or a spouse or child of a servicemember or veteran, to pay rent.*

(Full Summary: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/hr5781>)

Sponsor: Rep. Crowley, Joseph [D-NY-14] Introduced: May 11, 2018

Last Action – May 11th – Referred to Committee on Veterans Affairs.

### **S. 2821: Mark Takai Atomic Veterans Healthcare Parity Act**

Summary: *A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to provide for the treatment of veterans who participated in the cleanup of Enewetak Atoll as radiation exposed veterans for purposes of the presumption of service-connection of certain disabilities by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes.*

(Full Summary: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/s2821>)

Sponsor: Sen. Smith, Tina [D-MN] Introduced: May 10, 2018

Last Action – May 10th – Referred to Committee on Veterans Affairs.

### **S. 2822: Farmer Veteran Opportunity Act of 2018**

Summary: *A bill to amend the Food, Agriculture, Conservation, and Trade Act of 1990 to expand the availability of programs of the Department of Agriculture to veteran farmers and ranchers, and for other purposes.*

(Full Summary: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/s2822> )

Sponsor: Sen. Stabenow, Debbie [D-MI] Introduced: May 10, 2018

Last Action – May 10th – Referred to Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition & Forestry.

### **S. 2819: A bill to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to report on opioid prescribing rates of physicians of the Veterans Health Administration and to conduct pain management training for those physicians with the highest rates of opioid prescribing**

Summary: *As stated.*

(Full Summary: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/s2819> )

Sponsor: Sen. Inhofe, James M. [R-OK] Introduced: May 10, 2018

Last Action – May 10th – Referred to Committee on Veterans Affairs.

### **S. 2807: Department of Veterans Affairs Bonus Transparency Act**

Summary: *A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to submit an annual report regarding performance awards and bonuses awarded to certain high-level employees of the Department of Veterans Affairs.*

(Full Summary: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/s2807> )

Sponsor: Sen. Heller, Dean [R-NV] Introduced: May 9, 2018

Last Action – May 9th – Referred to Committee on Veterans Affairs.

### **S. 2799: Department of Defense Transition Assistance Program Oversight Improvement Act of 2018**

Summary: *A bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to improve oversight of the Transition Assistance Program of the Department of Defense, and for other purposes.*

(Full Summary: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/s2799> )

Sponsor: Sen. Rounds, Mike [R-SD] Introduced: May 9, 2018

Last Action – May 9th – Referred to Committee on Veterans Affairs.

### **H.R. 5693: Long-Term Care Veterans Choice Act**

Summary: *To amend title 38, United States Code, to authorize the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to enter into contracts and agreements for the placement of veterans in non-Department medical foster homes for certain veterans who are unable to live independently.*

(Full Summary: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/hr5693> )

Sponsor: Rep. Higgins, Clay [R-LA-3]

Introduced: May 7, 2018

Last Action – July 26th – Passed House. Referred to Senate Committee on Veterans Affairs.

### **S. 2796: VA Medicinal Cannabis Research Act of 2018**

Summary: *A bill to authorize the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to use the authority of the Secretary to conduct and support research on the efficacy and safety of medicinal cannabis, and for other purposes.*

(Full Summary: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/s2796> )

Sponsor: Rep. Higgins, Clay [R-LA-3]

Introduced: May 7, 2018

Last Action – May 7th – Referred to Committee on Veterans Affairs.

### **H.R. 5689: To direct the Secretary of Defense to provide for the inclusion of the names of the crew members of the USS Frank E. Evans killed on June 3, 1969 on the Vietnam Veterans Memorial.**

Summary: *As stated.*

(Full Summary: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/hr5689> )

Sponsor: Rep. Cramer, Kevin [R-ND-At Large]

Introduced: May 7, 2018

Last Action – May 7th – Referred to Subcommittee on Military Personnel.

### **H.R. 5671: Burn Pits Accountability Act**

Summary: *To direct the Secretary of Defense to include in periodic health assessments, separation history and physical examinations, and other assessments an evaluation of whether a member of the Armed Forces has been exposed to open burn pits or toxic airborne chemicals, and for other purposes.*

(Full Summary: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/hr5671> )

Sponsor: Rep. Higgins, Clay [R-LA-3]

Introduced: May 7, 2018

Last Action – May 7th – Referred to Subcommittee on Military Personnel.

### **H.R. 5649: Navy SEAL Chief Petty Officer William `Bill' Mulder (Ret.) Transition Improvement Act of 2018**

Summary: *To amend titles 10 and 38, United States Code, to amend the Social Security Act, and to direct the Secretaries of Veterans Affairs, Defense, Labor, and Homeland Security, and the Administrator of the Small Business Administration, to take certain actions to improve transition assistance to members of the Armed Forces who separate, retire, or are discharged from the Armed Forces, and for other purposes.*

(Full Summary: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/hr5649> )

Sponsor: Rep. Arrington, Jodey C. [R-TX-19]

Introduced: April 27, 2018

Last Action – July 25th – Passed House. Referred to Senate Committee on Veterans Affairs.

### **S. 2768: VET OPP Act of 2018**

Summary: *A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to establish the Veterans Economic Opportunity and Transition Administration, and for other purposes.*

(Full Summary: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/s2768> )

Sponsor: Sen. Rubio, Marco [R-FL]

Introduced: April 26, 2018

Last Action – April 26th – Referred to Committee on Veterans Affairs.

### **H.R. 5644: VET OPP Act**

Summary: *To amend title 38, United States Code, to establish the Veterans Economic Opportunity and Transition Administration, and for other purposes.*

(Full Summary: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/hr5644> )

Sponsor: Rep. Wenstrup, Brad R. [R-OH-2]

Introduced: April 26, 2018

Last Action – May 23rd – Referred to Subcommittee. Hearings Held.

### **H.R. 5634: Medical Cannabis Research Act of 2018**

Summary: *To increase the number of manufacturers registered under the Controlled Substances Act to manufacture cannabis for legitimate research purposes, to authorize health care providers of the Department of Veterans Affairs to provide recommendations to veterans regarding participation in federally-approved cannabis clinical trials, and for other purposes.*

(Full Summary: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/hr5634> )

Sponsor: Rep. Arrington, Jodey C. [R-TX-19] Introduced: April 26, 2018

Last Action – September 13th – Ordered to be reported (amended) by Voice Vote.

### **S. 2748: BATTLE for Servicemembers Act**

Summary: *A bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to require members of the Armed Forces to receive additional training under the Transition Assistance Program, and for other purposes.*

(Full Summary: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/hr5634> )

Sponsor: Sen. Brown, Sherrod [D-OH] Introduced: April 25, 2018

Last Action – August 1st – Referred to Committee on Veterans Affairs. Hearings held.

### **S. 2750: Preserving Our Commitment to Homeless Veterans Act**

Summary: *A bill to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to ensure that the supported housing program of the Department of Veterans Affairs has not fewer than one program manager for every 35 rental assistance cases under such program, and for other purposes.*

(Full Summary: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/s2750> )

Sponsor: Sen. Nelson, Bill [D-FL] Introduced: April 25, 2018

Last Action – April 25th – Referred to Committee on Veterans Affairs.

### **H.R. 5588: To direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to seek to enter into an agreement with the city of Vallejo, California, for the transfer of Mare Island Naval Cemetery in Vallejo, California, and for other purposes**

Summary: *As stated.*

(Full Summary: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/hr5588> )

Sponsor: Rep. Thompson, Mike [D-CA-5] Introduced: April 23, 2018

Last Action – April 23rd – Referred to Committee on Veterans Affairs.

### **S. 2719: PFAS Registry Act**

Summary: *A bill to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to establish a registry to ensure that members of the Armed Forces who may have been exposed to per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances on military installations receive information regarding such exposure, and for other purposes.*

(Full Summary: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/s2719> )

Sponsor: Sen. Shaheen, Jeanne [D-NH] Introduced: April 19, 2018

Last Action – April 19th – Referred to Committee on Veterans Affairs.

### **H.R. 5553: Loya-Sears Warrior Transition Assistance Reform Act of 2018**

Summary: *To direct the Secretary of Defense to take certain steps to improve the Transition Assistance Program, and for other purposes.*

(Full Summary: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/hr5553> )

Sponsor: Rep. Bacon, Don [R-NE-2] Introduced: April 18, 2018

Last Action – April 18th – Referred to Subcommittee on Military Personnel.

### **H.R. 5528: SWORDD Act of 2018**

Summary: *To direct the Secretary of Defense to submit to Congress a plan for improvements to traumatic brain injury and post-traumatic stress research.*

(Full Summary: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/hr5528> )

Sponsor: Rep. Bacon, Don [R-NE-2] Introduced: April 17, 2018

Last Action – April 17th – Referred to Subcommittee on Military Personnel.

**H.R. 5538: To amend title 38, United States Code, to provide for the inclusion of certain additional periods of active duty service for purposes of suspending charges to veterans' entitlement to educational assistance under the laws administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs during periods of ... suspended participation in vocational rehabilitation programs.**

Summary: *As stated.*

(Full Summary: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/hr5538> )

Sponsor: Rep. Peters, Scott H. [D-CA-52] Introduced: April 17, 2018

Last Action – July 25th – Passed House. In Senate. Referred to Committee on Veterans Affairs.

**H.R. 5521: VA Hiring Enhancement Act**

Summary: *To amend title 38, United States Code, to provide for the non-applicability of non-Department of Veterans Affairs covenants not to compete to the appointment of certain Veterans Health Administration personnel, to permit the Veterans Health Administration to make contingent appointments, and to require certain Veterans Health Administration physicians to complete residency training.*

(Full Summary: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/hr5521> )

Sponsor: Rep. Hartzler, Vicky [R-MO-4] Introduced: April 16, 2018

Last Action – June 13th – Referred to Subcommittee. Hearings held.

**S. 2679: Veterans Small Business Enhancement Act of 2018**

Summary: *A bill to provide access to and manage the distribution of excess or surplus property to veteran-owned small businesses.*

(Full Summary: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/s2679> )

Sponsor: Sen. Duckworth, Tammy [D-IL] Introduced: April 16, 2018

Last Action – October 11th – Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders.

**S. 2656: Department of Veterans Affairs Oversight Enhancement Act of 2018**

Summary: *A bill to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to report biennially on actions taken to address areas of concerns that led to the inclusion of veterans health care in the High Risk List of the Government Accountability Office, and for other purposes.*

(Full Summary: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/s2656> )

Sponsor: Sen. Young, Todd C. [R-IN] Introduced: April 12, 2018

Last Action – April 12th – Referred to Committee on Veterans Affairs.

**S. 2668: A bill to require a pilot program on the earning by special operations forces medics of credits towards a physician assistant degree.**

Summary: *As stated.*

(Full Summary: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/s2668> )

Sponsor: Sen. Burr, Richard [R-NC] Introduced: April 12, 2018

Last Action – April 12th – Referred to Committee on Armed Services.

**H.R. 5500: Veterans' Credit Protection Act**

Summary: *To direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to conduct outreach to veterans regarding the effect of delayed payments of claims for emergency medical care furnished by non-Department of Veterans Affairs medical providers by the Office of Community Care and to direct the Secretary to submit to Congress an annual report regarding such delayed payments.*

(Full Summary: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/hr5500> )

Sponsor: Rep. Rouzer, David [R-NC-7] Introduced: April 12, 2018

Last Action – April 12th – Referred to Subcommittee on Health.

**H.R. 5494: Protecting Business Opportunities for Veterans Adjustment Act of 2018**

Summary: *To amend the Small Business Act to include contracts awarded under section 8127 of title 38, United States Code, in the limitations relating to subcontracting, and for other purposes.*

(Full Summary: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/hr5494> )

Sponsor: Rep. Kelly, Trent [R-MS-1] Introduced: April 12, 2018

Last Action – April 12th – Referred to Committee on Small Business.

### **H.R. 5486: Veteran Employment and Child Care Access Act of 2018**

Summary: *To amend title 38, United States Code, to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to provide child care assistance to veterans receiving certain training or vocational rehabilitation, and for other purposes.*

(Full Summary: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/hr5486> )

Sponsor: Rep. Correa, J. Luis [D-CA-46]

Introduced: April 12, 2018

Last Action – April 12th – Referred to Committee on Veterans Affairs.

### **H.R. 5467: Purple Heart and Disabled Veterans Equal Access Act of 2018**

Summary: *To amend title 10, United States Code, to extend certain morale, welfare, and recreation privileges to certain veterans and their caregivers, to authorize the appropriation of funds for the purpose of improving the electronic physical access control system used by military commissaries and exchanges, and for other purposes.*

(Full Summary: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/hr5467> )

Sponsor: Rep. Lipinski, Daniel [D-IL-3]

Introduced: April 11, 2018

Last Action – April 11th – Referred to Subcommittee on Military Personnel.

### **H.R. 5452: Reduce Unemployment for Veterans of All Ages Act of 2018**

Summary: *To amend title 38, United States Code, to eliminate the period of eligibility for the Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment program of the Department of Veterans Affairs.*

(Full Summary: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/hr5452> )

Sponsor: Rep. Brownley, Julia [D-CA-26]

Introduced: April 11, 2018

Last Action – May 23rd – Referred to Subcommittee. Hearings Held.

### **H.R. 4835: Job TOOLS for Veterans Act.**

Summary: *To extend the pilot program on off-base transition training for veterans and spouses.*

(Full Summary: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/hr4835> )

Sponsor: Rep. Elizabeth Esty [D-CT5]

Introduced: January 18, 2018

Last Action – April 11<sup>th</sup> – Referred to Committees, Veterans Affairs & Armed Services

### **H.R. 4843: To modify the presumption of service connection for veterans who were exposed to herbicide agents while serving in the Armed Forces in Thailand during the Vietnam era, and for other purposes.**

Summary: *As stated.*

(Full Summary: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/hr4843> )

Sponsor: Rep. Bruce Westerman [R-AR4]

Introduced: January 18, 2018

Last Action – January 18th – In Committees on Veterans Affairs. Referred to Subcommittee on Disability Assistance & Memorial Affairs

### **H.R. 4830: SIT-REP Act**

Summary: *To amend title 38, United States Code, to provide for the disapproval of any course of education for purposes of the educational assistance programs of the Department of Veterans Affairs unless the educational institution providing the course permits individuals to attend or participate in courses pending payment by Department, and for other purposes.*

(Full Summary: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/hr4830> )

Sponsor: Rep. Gus Bilirakis [R-FL12]

Introduced: January 18, 2018

Last Action – May 22nd – Approved House. In Senate. Referred to Committee on Veterans Affairs.

### **S. 2323: A bill making continuing appropriations for veterans benefits and services in the event of a Government shutdown, and for other purposes.**

Summary: *As stated.*

(Full Summary: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/s2323> )

Sponsor: Sen. Dean Heller [R-NV]

Introduced: January 18, 2018

Last Action – January 18th – Referred to Senate Appropriations Committee

### **H.R. 4852: Pay Our Protectors Not Our Politicians Act of 2018**

Summary: *Would couple a lack of congressional pay with explicitly continuing federal government payments to military, Homeland Security officials, and death benefits to troops' families.*

(Full Summary: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/hr4852/summary> )

Sponsor: Rep. Martha McSally [R-AZ2]

Introduced: January 18, 2018

Last Action – January 19th – Referred to Appropriations Committee

### **S. 2336: Supporting Veteran Families Act of 2018**

Summary: *A bill to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to carry out a pilot program on providing intensive community care coordination and supportive services to veteran families who lack adequate access to services, and for other purposes.*

(Full Summary: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/s2336> )

Sponsor: Sen. Jon Tester [D-MT]

Introduced: January 24, 2018

Last Action – January 24th – In Committee of Veterans Affairs.

### **S. 2341: Veteran Debt Fairness Act of 2018**

Summary: *A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to improve the processing of veterans benefits by the Department of Veterans Affairs, to limit the authority of the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to recover overpayments made by the Department and other amounts owed by veterans to the United States, to improve the due process accorded veterans with respect to such recovery, and for other purposes.*

(Full Summary: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/s2341> )

Sponsor: Sen. Jon Tester [D-MT]

Introduced: January 25, 2018

Last Action – January 25th – In Committee of Veterans Affairs.

### **S. 2356: Stronger Medical Workforce for Veterans Act**

Summary: *A bill to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to address staffing and other issues at facilities, including underserved facilities, of the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes.*

(Full Summary: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/s2356> )

Sponsor: Sen. Jon Tester [D-MT]

Introduced: January 30, 2018

Last Action – January 30th – In Committee of Veterans Affairs.

### **H.R. 4898: Keeping Our Commitment to Ending Veteran Homelessness Act of 2018**

Summary: *To amend title 38, United States Code, to extend authorities relating to homeless veterans, and for other purposes. This bill extends through FY2019 authority for the following Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) programs: homeless veterans reintegration programs, the homeless women veterans and homeless veterans with children reintegration program, referral and counseling services for certain veterans at risk of homelessness, treatment and rehabilitation services for seriously mentally ill and homeless veterans, and the grant program for homeless veterans with special needs. The bill extends through FY2020 authority for the following VA programs: housing assistance for homeless veterans, and financial assistance for supportive services for very low-income veteran families in permanent housing. The bill extends through December 31, 2019, authority for the Advisory Committee on Homeless Veterans.*

(Full Summary: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/hr4898> )

Sponsor: Rep. Jacky Rosen [D-NV3]

Introduced: January 30, 2018

Last Action – January 30th – In Committee of Veterans Affairs. Referred to Subcommittee on Economic Opportunity

### **S. 2357: Accountability in Department of Veterans Affairs Scheduling and Consult Management Act**

Summary: *A bill to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to review the processes and requirements of the Department of Veterans Affairs for scheduling appointments for health care and conducting consultations under the laws administered by the Secretary, and for other purposes.*

(Full Summary: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/s2357> )

Sponsor: Sen. Jon Tester [D-MT]

Introduced: January 30, 2018

Last Action – January 30th – In Committee of Veterans Affairs.

### **S. 2379: Military Spouse Employment Act of 2018**

Summary: *A bill to improve and expand authorities, programs, services, and benefits for military spouses and military families, and for other purposes.*

(Full Summary: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/s2379> )

Sponsor: Sen. Timothy Kaine [D-VA]

Introduced: February 6, 2018

Last Action – February 14th – In Committee on Armed Services. Referred to subcommittee on Personnel. Hearings Held.

### **H.R. 4954: BATTLE for Servicemembers Act**

Summary: *To amend title 10, United States Code, to require members of the Armed Forces to receive additional training under the Transition Assistance Program, and for other purposes.*

(Full Summary: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/hr4954> )

Sponsor: Rep. Stephanie Murphy [D-FL7]

Introduced: February 6, 2018

Last Action – February 7th – In Committee on Armed Services. Referred to subcommittee on Military Personnel.

### **S. 2386: Veterans' Second Amendment Rights Restoration Act of 2018**

Summary: *A bill to provide additional protections for our veterans.*

(Full Summary: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/s2386> )

Sponsor: Sen. Charles "Chuck" Grassley [R-IA]

Introduced: February 6, 2018

Last Action – February 6th – In Committee of Veterans Affairs.

### **S. 2382: SEA Act**

Summary: *A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to provide for requirements relating to the reassignment of Department of Veterans Affairs senior executive employees, and for other purposes.*

(Full Summary: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/s2382> )

Sponsor: Sen. Thom Tillis [R-NC]

Introduced: February 6, 2018

Last Action – February 6th – In Committee of Veterans Affairs.

### **H.R. 4982: Preparedness Before Parades Act**

Summary: *To limit the authority of the President to carry out large-scale military parades.*

(Full Summary: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/hr4982> )

Sponsor: Rep. Bradley Schneider [D-IL10]

Introduced: February 8, 2018

Last Action – February 8th – In Committee of Veterans Affairs.

### **S. 2402: A bill to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to increase the number of peer-to-peer counselors providing counseling for women veterans, and for other purposes.**

Summary: *As stated.*

(Full Summary: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/s2402> )

Sponsor: Sen. Elizabeth Warren [D-MA]

Introduced: February 8, 2018

Last Action – February 8th – In Committee of Veterans Affairs.

### **H.R. 5049: Facilitating Veterans' Education Act**

Summary: *To amend title 10, United States Code, to ensure that each member of the Armed Forces who is discharged or separated from the Armed Forces receives documentation regarding the training and experience of the member.*

(Full Summary: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/hr5049> )

Sponsor: Rep. Luis Correa [D-CA46]

Introduced: February 15, 2018

Last Action – February 16th – In Committee on Armed Services. Referred to subcommittee on Military Personnel.

### **H.R. 5044: Service-Disabled Veterans Small Business Continuation Act**

Summary: *To amend title 38, United States Code, to clarify the treatment of certain surviving spouses under the contracting goals and preferences of the Department of Veterans Affairs.*

(Full Summary: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/hr5044> )

Sponsor: Rep. Steve Chabot [R-OH1]

Introduced: February 15, 2018

Last Action – May 22nd – Passed House. In Senate. Referred to Committee of Veterans Affairs.

### **H.R. 5047: VA Community Care Enhancement Act**

Summary: *To direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to carry out a demonstration program to provide expanded access to medical services through partnerships between Department of Veterans Affairs medical centers and Federally Qualified Health Centers, and for other purposes.*

(Full Summary: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/hr5047> )

Sponsor: Rep. Gus Bilirakis [R-FL12]

Introduced: February 15, 2018

Last Action – February 15th – In Committee of Veterans Affairs. Referred to Subcommittee on Health.

### **S. 2433: Filipino Veterans Fairness Act of 2018**

Summary: *A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to deem certain service in the organized military forces of the Government of the Commonwealth of the Philippines and the Philippine Scouts to have been active service for purposes of benefits under programs administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes.*

(Full Summary: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/s2433> )

Sponsor: Sen. Brian Schatz [D-HI]

Introduced: February 15, 2018

Last Action – February 15th – In Committee of Veterans Affairs.

### **H.R. 5095: Veterans Cancer Treatment Flexibility Act of 2018**

Summary: *To amend the Veterans Access, Choice, and Accountability Act of 2014 to improve access of veterans to cancer treatment at non-Department of Veterans Affairs facilities, and for other purposes.*

(Full Summary: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/hr5095> )

Sponsor: Rep. Robert Latta [R-OH5]

Introduced: February 26, 2018

Last Action – February 26th – In Committee of Veterans Affairs.

### **H.R. 5097: PAVE Act of 2018**

Summary: *To amend title 38 and title 5, United States Code, to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs and other officials of the Department of Veterans Affairs to receive health care from the Department, and for other purposes.*

(Full Summary: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/hr5097> )

Sponsor: Rep. Tom Rice [R-SC7]

Introduced: February 26, 2018

Last Action – February 26th – In Committee of Veterans Affairs.

### **H.R. 5130: Ensuring Veterans Access to Military Fitness Facilities Act of 2018**

Summary: *To amend title 10, United States Code, to permit the Secretary of a military department to grant veterans access to certain fitness centers under the jurisdiction of such Secretary, and for other purposes.*

(Full Summary: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/hr5130> )

Sponsor: Rep. Claudia Tenney [R-NY22]

Introduced: February 27, 2018

Last Action – February 28th – In Committee on Armed Services. Referred to Subcommittee on Readiness.

### **H.R. 5125: Military Spouse Employment Act of 2018**

Summary: *To improve and expand authorities, programs, services, and benefits for military spouses and military families, and for other purposes.*

(Full Summary: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/hr5125> )

Sponsor: Rep. Donald McEachin [D-VA4]

Introduced: February 27, 2018

Last Action – February 28th – In Committee on Armed Services. Referred to Subcommittee on Military Personnel.

### **S. 2473: VICTOR Act of 2018**

Summary: *A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to furnish organ transplant care to veterans at non-Department of Veterans Affairs facilities, and for other purposes.*

(Full Summary: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/s2473> )

Sponsor: Sen. Bill Cassidy [R-LA]

Introduced: February 28, 2018

Last Action – February 28th – In Committee of Veterans Affairs.

### **H.R. 5139: Hire Our Heroes to Protect Our Schools Act of 2018**

Summary: *To reauthorize the grant program for school security in the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968.*

(Full Summary: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/hr5139> )

Sponsor: Rep. Steve Chabot [R-OH1]

Introduced: March 1, 2018

Last Action – March 20th – In Committee on Judiciary, Education & Workforce. Referred to Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, Homeland, Security & Investigations.

### **H.R. 5152: To direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to establish a grant program for eligible nonprofit organizations to carry out positive psychology reconditioning programs for veterans.**

Summary: *As stated.*

(Full Summary: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/hr5152> )

Sponsor: Rep. Richard Nolan [D-MN8]

Introduced: March 1, 2018

Last Action – March 1st – In Committee of Veterans Affairs.

### **S. 2477: SNAP Work Opportunities and Veteran Protection Act of 2018**

Summary: *A bill to amend the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 to modify the exception to the work requirement.*

(Full Summary: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/s2477> )

Sponsor: Sen. Richard Blumenthal [D-CT] Introduced: March 1, 2018

Last Action – March 1st – In Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition & Forestry.

### **S. 2485: Medal of Honor Surviving Spouses Recognition Act of 2018**

Summary: *A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to provide payment of Medal of Honor special pension under such title to the surviving spouse of a deceased Medal of Honor recipient, and for other purposes.*

(Full Summary: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/s2485> )

Sponsor: Sen. Dan Sullivan [R-AK] Introduced: March 1, 2018

Last Action – August 1st – In Committee of Veterans Affairs. Hearings held.

### **H.R. 5186: Veterans Securing Schools Act of 2018**

Summary: *To amend the definition of a school resource officer to include certain veterans.*

(Full Summary: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/s2379> )

Sponsor: Rep. Mark Meadows [R-NC11] Introduced: March 6, 2018

Last Action – April 6th – In Committee on Judiciary, Education & Workforce. Referred to Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, Homeland, Security & Investigations.

### **H.R. 5177: Encouraging Veteran Employment Act of 2018**

Summary: *To amend title 10, United States Code, to authorize the Secretary of Defense, in awarding a contract for the procurement of goods or services, to give a preference to offerors that employ veterans, and for other purposes.*

(Full Summary: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/hr5177> )

Sponsor: Rep. Steve Knight [R-CA25] Introduced: March 6, 2018

Last Action – March 6th – In Committee of Veterans Affairs.

### **H.R. 5193: Veteran Entrepreneurship Training Act of 2018**

Summary: *To amend the Small Business Act to codify the Boots to Business Program, and for other purposes.*

(Full Summary: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/hr5193> )

Sponsor: Rep. Bradley Schneider [D-IL10] Introduced: March 7, 2018

Last Action – March 1st – In Committee on Armed Services. Referred to Subcommittee on Military Personnel.

### **H.R. 5191: To amend title 38, United States Code, to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to establish Alzheimer's Disease research, education, and clinical centers**

Summary: *As stated.*

(Full Summary: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/hr5191> )

Sponsor: Rep. Mike Coffman [R-CO6] Introduced: March 7, 2018

Last Action – March 7th – In Committee of Veterans Affairs. Referred to Subcommittee on Health.

### **H.R. 5215: Veterans Affairs Purchase Card Misuse Mitigation Act**

Summary: *To amend title 38, United States Code, to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to prohibit employees found to have knowingly misused Department of Veterans Affairs purchase cards from serving as purchase card holders or approving officials.*

(Full Summary: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/hr5215> )

Sponsor: Rep. Jack Bergman [R-MI1] Introduced: March 8, 2018

Last Action – May 22nd – Passed House. In Senate. Referred to Committee of Veterans Affairs.

### **H.R. 5222: Korean War Combat Veterans Congressional Gold Medal Act**

Summary: *To award a Congressional Gold Medal, collectively, to Korean war combat veterans, in recognition of their dedicated service during the Korean war.*

(Full Summary: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/hr5222> )

Sponsor: Rep. Colleen Hanabusa [D-HI1] Introduced: March 8, 2018

Last Action – March 8th – In Committee on Financial Services.

### **H.R. 5246: VA Medical Center Improvement Act**

Summary: *To require directors of medical facilities of the Department of Veterans Affairs to submit plans to the Secretary of Veterans Affairs on how to improve such facilities, and for other purposes.*

(Full Summary: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/hr5246> )

Sponsor: Rep. Steve Russell [R-OK5]

Introduced: March 9, 2018

Last Action – March 9th – In Committee of Veterans Affairs. Referred to Subcommittee on Health.

### **S. 2541: Support Our Military Spouses Act**

Summary: *A bill to amend the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act to authorize spouses of servicemembers to elect to use the same residences as the servicemembers, and for other purposes.*

(Full Summary: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/s2541> )

Sponsor: Sen. Amy Klobuchar [D-MN]

Introduced: March 13, 2018

Last Action – March 13th – In Committee of Veterans Affairs.

### **S. 2548: Veteran Urgent Access to Mental Healthcare Act**

Summary: *A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to furnish mental health care to certain former members of the Armed Forces who are not otherwise eligible to receive such care, and for other purposes.*

(Full Summary: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/s2548> )

Sponsor: Sen. Dean Heller [R-NV]

Introduced: March 14, 2018

Last Action – March 14th – In Committee of Veterans Affairs.

### **H.R. 5301: To amend title 38, United States Code, to prohibit the Secretary of Veterans Affairs from requiring a surviving spouse of a veteran to return certain payments for a month in which the veteran dies.**

Summary: *As stated.*

(Full Summary: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/hr5301> )

Sponsor: Rep. Peter DeFazio [D-OR4]

Introduced: March 15, 2018

Last Action – March 15th – In Committee of Veterans Affairs.

### **S. 2565: Veteran Employment and Child Care Access Act of 2018**

Summary: *A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to provide child care assistance to veterans receiving certain training or vocational rehabilitation, and for other purposes.*

(Full Summary: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/s2565> )

Sponsor: Sen. Tammy Duckworth [D-IL]

Introduced: March 15, 2018

Last Action – March 15th – In Committee of Veterans Affairs.

### **H.R. 5314: Veterans Mental Health Accessibility Act**

Summary: *To amend title 38, United States Code, to provide for unlimited eligibility for health care for mental illnesses for veterans of combat service during certain periods of hostilities and war.*

(Full Summary: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/hr5314> )

Sponsor: Rep. Matthew Cartwright [D-PA17]

Introduced: March 15, 2018

Last Action – September 13th – Referred to Subcommittee on Health. Hearings held.

### **S. 2573: Veteran and Beginning Farmers Technical Assistance Act**

Summary: *A bill to amend the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act to reauthorize the appropriate technology transfer for rural areas program.*

(Full Summary: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/s2573> )

Sponsor: Sen. John Boozman [R-AR]

Introduced: March 20, 2018

Last Action – August 1st – In Committee on Veterans Affairs. Hearings Held.

### **H.R. 5360: Tax Credit for Veterans and Retired Law Enforcement Officers for Securing Schools Act**

Summary: *To amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for a credit against tax for qualified special law enforcement officers.*

(Full Summary: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/hr5360> )

Sponsor: Rep. Mark Meadows [R-NC11]

Introduced: March 21, 2018

Last Action – March 21st – In Committee Ways and Means.

### **H.R. 5397: Veterans Residential Care Choice Act**

Summary: *To amend title 38, United States Code, to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to furnish, at the request of an eligible veteran, nursing home care and hospital care at State licensed or certified residential care facilities.*

(Full Summary: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/hr5397> )

Sponsor: Rep. Rosa DeLauro [D-CT3]

Introduced: March 22, 2018

Last Action – March 22nd – In Committee of Veterans Affairs. Referred to Subcommittee on Health.

### **S. 2622: A bill to require directors of medical facilities of the Department of Veterans Affairs to submit plans to the Secretary of Veterans Affairs on how to improve such facilities, and for other purposes.**

Summary: *As stated.*

(Full Summary: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/s2622> )

Sponsor: Sen. James “Jim” Inhofe [R-OK]

Introduced: March 22, 2018

Last Action – March 22nd – In Committee of Veterans Affairs.

### **H.R. 5413: Improving Veterans Access to Congressional Services Act of 2018**

Summary: *To direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to permit Members of Congress to use facilities of the Department of Veterans Affairs for the purposes of meeting with constituents, and for other purposes.*

(Full Summary: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/hr5413> )

Sponsor: Rep. Brian Mast [R-FL18]

Introduced: March 26, 2018

Last Action – March 26th – In Committee of Veterans Affairs.

### **H.R. 5418: Veterans Affairs Medical-Surgical Purchasing Stabilization Act**

Summary: *To direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to carry out the Medical Surgical Prime Vendor program using multiple prime vendors.*

(Full Summary: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/hr5418> )

Sponsor: Rep. Jack Bergman [R-MI1]

Introduced: March 29, 2018

Last Action – May 22nd – Passed House. In Senate. Referred to Committee of Veterans Affairs.

## OTHERS UNDER REVIEW

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Search for more information about these bills at <https://www.congress.gov/search>

- S. 1467 - Wounded Warrior Workforce Enhancement Act
- S. 1325 - Better Workforce for Veterans Act of 2017
- S. 1266 - Enhancing Veteran Care Act
- S. 1261 - Veterans Emergency Room Relief Act of 2017
- S. 1218 - Empowering Federal Employment for Disabled Veterans Act
- S. 1209 - A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to increase the amount of special pension for Medal of Honor recipients, and for other purposes.
- S. 1192 - Veterans TEST Accessibility Act
- S. 1153 - Veterans ACCESS Act
- S. 1024 - Veterans Appeals Improvement and Modernization Act of 2017
- S. 946 - Veterans Treatment Court Improvement Act of 2017
- S. 925 - Veterans E-Health and Telemedicine Support Act of 2017 (VETS Act)
- S. 882 - Purple Heart GI Bill Act
- S. 844 - GI Bill Fairness Act
- S. 833 - Servicemembers and Veterans Empowerment and Support Act of 2017
- S. 804 - Women Veterans Access to Quality Care Act
- S. 798 - Yellow Ribbon Improvement Act
- S. 784 - Veterans' Compensation Cost-of-Living Adjustment Act of 2017
- S. 758 - Janey Ensminger Act of 2017
- S. 744 - Protecting Veterans Credit Act of 2017
- S. 683 - Keeping Our Commitment to Disabled Veterans Act of 2017
- S. 681 - Deborah Sampson Act
- S. 609 - Chiropractic Care Available to All Veterans Act of 2017
- S. 591 - Military and Veteran Caregiver Services Improvement Act of 2017
- S. 473 - Educational Development for Troops & Veterans Act
- S. 426 - Grow Our Own Directive: Physician Assistant Employment and Education Act of 2017
- S. 423 - CHAMPVA Children's Care Protection Act of 2017
- S. 410 - Shauna Hill Post 9/11 Education Benefits Transferability Act
- S. 339 - A bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to repeal the requirement for reduction of survivor annuities under the Survivor Benefit Plan by veterans' dependency and indemnity compensation, and for other purposes.
- S. 324 - State Veterans Home Adult Day Health Care Improvement Act of 2017
- S. 233 - Providing Veterans Overdue Care Act of 2017
- S. 165 - Caregiver Program Information Dissemination Act of 2017
- S. 152 - VA Accountability First and Appeals Modernization Act of 2017
- S. 143 - Military Spouse Job Continuity Act of 2017
- S. 121 - Veterans Small Business Ownership Improvement Act
- S. 120 - Bring Our Heroes Home Act
- S. 116 - A bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to permit veterans who have a service-connected, permanent disability rated as total to travel on military aircraft in the same manner and to the same extent as retired members of the Armed Forces entitled to such travel.
- S. 115 - Veterans Transplant Coverage Act
- S. 114 - Department of Veterans Affairs Bonus Transparency Act
- S. 113 - Maximizing Efficiency and Improving Access to Providers at the Department of Veterans Affairs Act
- S. 112 - Creating a Reliable Environment for Veterans Dependents Act
- S. 86 - Veterans Choice Continuation Act
- S. 75 - Arla Harrell Act
- S. 66 - Retired Pay Restoration Act

**S. 57** - A bill to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to revoke bonuses paid to employees involved in electronic wait list manipulations, and for other purposes

**S. 23** - Biological Implant Tracking and Veteran Safety Act of 2017

**S. 12** - Increasing the Department of Veterans Affairs Accountability to Veterans Act of 2017

**H.R. 2506** - Veteran Wellness Act

**H.R. 2006** - VA Procurement Efficiency and Transparency Act

**H.R. 1942** - To amend title 38, United States Code, to direct the Comptroller General of the United States to periodically conduct an audit of the Veterans Health Administration budget, and for other purposes.

**H.R. 1848** - Veterans Affairs Medical Scribe Pilot Act of 2017

**H.R. 1725** - Quicker Veterans Benefits Delivery Act of 2017

**H.R. 1564** - VA Beneficiary Travel Act of 2017

**H.R. 1545** - VA Prescription Data Accountability Act 2017

**H.R. 1390** - To amend title 38, United States Code, to authorize the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to pay costs relating to the transportation of certain deceased veterans to veterans' cemeteries owned by a State or tribal organization.

**H.R. 1384** - Reserve Component Benefits Parity Act

**H.R. 1379** - To amend title 38, United States Code, to provide for the entitlement to educational assistance under the Post-9/11 Educational Assistance Program of the Department of Veterans Affairs for members of the Armed Forces awarded the Purple Heart.

**H.R. 1329** - Veterans' Compensation Cost-of-Living Adjustment Act of 2017

**H.R. 1259** - VA Accountability First Act of 2017

**H.R. 1216** - Protecting Veterans From School Closures Act of 2017

**H.R. 1181** - Veterans 2nd Amendment Protection Act

**H.R. 1005** - To amend title 38, United States Code, to improve the provision of adult day health care services for veterans.

**H.R. 918** - Veteran Urgent Access to Mental Healthcare Act

**H.R. 512** - WINGMAN Act

**H.R. 501** - VA Transparency Enhancement Act of 2017

**H.R. 476** - VET Act

**H.R. 467** - VA Scheduling Accountability Act

**H.R. 457** - VA Appeals Modernization Act of 2017

**H.R. 450** - To amend title 10, United States Code, to ensure that every military chaplain has the prerogative to close a prayer outside of a religious service according to the dictates of the chaplain's own conscience.

**H.R. 334** - Victims of Agent Orange Relief Act of 2017

**H.R. 333** - Disabled Veterans Tax Termination Act

**H.R. 307** - Lead by Example Act of 2017

**H.R. 303** - Retired Pay Restoration Act

**H.R. 299** - Blue Water Navy Vietnam Veterans Act of 2017

**H.R. 293** - Highly Rural Veteran Transportation Program Extension Act

**H.R. 282** - Military Residency Choice Act

**H.R. 279** - Military Family Stability Act of 2017

**H.R. 105** - Protect Veterans from Financial Fraud Act of 2017

**H.R. 95** - Veterans' Access to Child Care Act

**H.R. 91** - Building Supportive Networks for Women Veterans Act

**H.R. 90** - Providing Veterans Overdue Care Act of 2017

**H.RES. 46** - Recognizing the increased risk of sleep apnea among soldiers returning from active duty and the benefits of continuous positive airway pressure (CPAP) therapy on treating obstructive sleep apnea (OSA) in soldiers suffering from Posttraumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD).



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