

# LEGISLATIVE

UPDATE REPORT

*For  
Military & Veterans*

*Educate, Inform and  
Provide Access to Reliable Sources*

**APRIL  
2018**

Anthony "Tony" Stewart

[Tony@Us4Warriors.org](mailto:Tony@Us4Warriors.org)

# STATE LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

## Status Update to State Bills

### Compiled 10 April 2018

*Updates from last report of 13 January 2018*

## APPROVED

---

None Since Last Report

## BILLS INTRODUCED SINCE LAST REPORT

---

### 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:** 1 March 2018 – Referred to the Committee on Health

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

### 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. This bill, for taxable years beginning on or after January 1, 2018, would exclude from gross income retirement pay received by a taxpayer from the federal government for military service performed in the Armed Forces of the United States, the reserve component of the Armed Forces of the United States, or the National Guard. This bill would take effect immediately as a tax levy.*

**Last Reported Status:** 20 March 2018 – Re-referred to Committee of Revenue & Tax

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

### 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:** 22 March 2018 – From committee with author's amendments. Read second time and amended. Re-referred to Committee on Veterans Affairs

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

## **BILLS INTRODUCED SINCE LAST REPORT (CONTINUED)**

---

### **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. This bill would define a workload unit for purposes of these provisions to mean a specific claim activity that is used to allocate subvention funds to counties, which is approved by the department, and performed by county veterans service officers. The bill would appropriate on an annual basis the sum of \$7,000,000 from the General Fund to the Dept of Veterans Affairs to be available for allocation to counties to fund the activities of county veterans service officers, as specified. The bill would also delete obsolete provisions and would make conforming changes.*

**Last Reported Status:** 23 March 2018 – Set for hearing April 24.

**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. This bill would prohibit a business that is not a small business or microbusiness from being a DVBE if it has 10 or more participation years, as defined, in the program. The bill would require the Department of General Services to promulgate regulations for the implementation of this requirement, including regulations that ensure that a successor business bidding with the same awarding department counts its predecessor's participation years as its own if it is owned by one or more people or their immediate family members.*

**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.

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

### **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. This bill would prohibit a business that is not a small business or microbusiness from being a DVBE if it has 10 or more participation years, as defined, in the program. The bill would require the Department of General Services to promulgate regulations for the implementation of this requirement, including regulations that ensure that a successor business bidding with the same awarding department counts its predecessor's participation years as its own if it is owned by one or more people or their immediate family members.*

**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.

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

### **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. Existing property tax law, pursuant to the authorization of the California Constitution, provides a disabled veteran's property tax exemption for the principal place of residence of a veteran, the veteran's spouse, or the veteran and veteran's spouse jointly, and the unmarried surviving spouse of a veteran, as provided, if the veteran, is blind in both eyes, has lost the use of 2 or more limbs, or is totally disabled as a result of injury or disease incurred in military, or if the veteran has, as a result of a service-connected injury or disease, died while on active duty in military service. Existing law exempts that part of the full value of the residence that does not exceed \$100,000, or \$150,000, if the household income of the veteran or the unmarried surviving spouse of a veteran does not exceed \$40,000, adjusted for inflation, as specified. This bill, beginning with the 2019–20 fiscal year and for each fiscal year thereafter, would instead exempt the full value of the principal place of residence of a veteran or veteran's spouse and the unmarried surviving spouse of a veteran. Existing law requires the state to reimburse local agencies annually for certain property tax revenues lost as a result of any exemption or classification of property for purposes of ad valorem property taxation. This bill would provide that, notwithstanding those provisions, no appropriation is made and the state shall not reimburse local agencies for property tax revenues lost by them pursuant to the bill. This bill would take effect immediately as a tax levy.*

**Last Reported Status:** 4 April 2018 – In committee: Set, first hearing. Referred to suspense file.

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

## BILLS STILL UNDER REVIEW (ACTIVE)

---

### 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: 14 February 2018 – Re-referred to Transportation & Housing Committee

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

### 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.

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

### AB-998 Veterans homes: Internet Web site.

*Create an online admissions and tracking system page for California Veterans Homes administration.*

Last Reported Status: 14 June 2017 – Referred to Committee on Veterans Affairs

Research: [https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billStatusClient.xhtml?bill\\_id=201720180AB998](https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billStatusClient.xhtml?bill_id=201720180AB998)

## BILLS HELD UNDER SUBMISSION

---

*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.*

### 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&search\\_keywords=veteran](http://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billTextClient.xhtml?bill_id=201720180SB409&search_keywords=veteran)

## BILLS DEAD (INACTIVE)

---

### AB-1314 County mental health services: veterans.

*An act to amend Section 5600.3 of the Welfare and Institutions Code, relating to mental health services.*

Last Reported Status: 1 February 2018 – Filed with the Chief Clerk pursuant to Joint Rule 56 (31 January 2018 – Died pursuant to Art. IV, Sec 10(c) of the Constitution

Research: [http://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billTextClient.xhtml?bill\\_id=201720180AB1314&search\\_keywords=veteran](http://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billTextClient.xhtml?bill_id=201720180AB1314&search_keywords=veteran)

### AB-1362 Veterans bond acts.

*An act relating to veterans' housing, by providing the funds necessary therefor through an election for the issuance and sale of bonds of the State of California and for the handling and disposition of those funds, and declaring the urgency thereof, to take effect immediately.*

Last Reported Status: 1 February 2018 – Filed with the Chief Clerk pursuant to Joint Rule 56 (31 January 2018 – Died pursuant to Art. IV, Sec 10(c) of the Constitution

Research: [https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billStatusClient.xhtml?bill\\_id=201720180AB1362](https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billStatusClient.xhtml?bill_id=201720180AB1362)

### SB-253 Veterans: homelessness.

*An act to amend Section 987.005 of the Military and Veterans Code, relating to veterans.*

Last Reported Status: 1 February 2018 – Inactive Bill. Returned to Secretary of State pursuant to Joint Rule 56.

Research: [https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billStatusClient.xhtml?bill\\_id=201720180AB998](https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billStatusClient.xhtml?bill_id=201720180AB998)

## VETOED BY GOVERNOR

---

None Since Last Report





## Newly Introduced (since last report)

---

### **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

### **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

### **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

### **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

### **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

### **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

### **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

### **H.R. 4910: Veterans Cemetery Benefit Correction Act**

Summary: *To amend title 38, United States Code, to provide outer burial receptacles for remains buried in National Parks, and for other purposes.*

(Full Summary: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/hr4910> )

Sponsor: Rep. Austin Scott [R-GA8]

Introduced: January 30, 2018

### **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

### **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

### **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

### **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

### **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

### **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

### **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

### **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

### **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

### **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

### **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

### **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

### **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

### **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

### **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

### **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

### **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



### **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

### **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

### **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

### **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

### **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

### **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

### **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

### **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

### **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

### **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

### **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

### **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

### **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

### **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

### **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

### **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

### **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

### **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

### **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

### **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

### **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

### **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

### **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

### **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

## Under Review

---

**S. 2402** - Women Veterans Peer Counseling Enhancement Act  
**S. 2341** - Veteran Debt Fairness Act of 2018  
**S. 2294** - Securing Electronic Records for Veterans' Ease (SERVE) Act of 2017  
**S. 2248** - To authorize the Secretary of VA to provide certain burial benefits for spouses and children of veterans who are buried in tribal cemeteries.  
**S. 2247** - To provide for a consistent eligibility date for provision of VA memorial headstones and markers for eligible spouses and dependent children of veterans whose remains are unavailable.  
**S. 2193** - Caring for our Veterans Act of 2017  
**S. 2131** - VA Newborn Emergency Treatment Act  
**S. 2105** - A bill to modify the presumptive service connection for veterans exposed to herbicide agents while serving in Thailand during the Vietnam era.  
**S. 2097** - State Veterans Home Program Improvement Act of 2017  
**S. 2038** - Fairness for Korean DMZ Veterans Act of 2017  
**S. 1596** - Burial Rights for America's Veterans' Efforts (BRAVE) Act of 2017  
**S. 1543** - Protecting Military Honor Act  
**S. 1389** - A bill to allow the CFPB to provide greater protection to service members.  
**S. 1325** - Better Workforce for Veterans Act of 2017  
**S. 1279** - Veterans Health Administration Reform Act of 2017  
**S. 1277** - Veterans Employment through Technology Education Course Act of 2017  
**S. 1261** - Veterans Emergency Room Relief Act  
**S. 1218** - Empowering Federal Employment for Disabled Veterans Act  
**S. 1209** - A bill to increase the amount of special pension for Medal of Honor recipients  
**S. 1192** - Veterans to Enhance Studies through Accessibility Act of 2017  
**S. 1161** - Veterans Preventive Health Coverage Fairness Act  
**S. 1072** - Homeless Veterans Prevention Act of 2017  
**S. 1024** - Veterans Appeals Improvement and Modernization Act of 2017  
**S. 992** - Veteran Overmedication Prevention Act of 2017  
**S. 970** - Newborn Care Improvement Act  
**S. 946** - Veterans Treatment Court Improvement Act of 2017  
**S. 925** - VETS Act of 2017  
**S. 907** - Second Division Memorial Modification Act  
**S. 899** - Department of Veterans Affairs Veteran Transition Improvement Act  
**S. 804** - Women Veterans Access to Quality Care Act of 2017  
**S. 798** - Yellow Ribbon Improvement Act  
**S. 784** - Veterans' Compensation Cost-of-Living Adjustment Act of 2017  
**S. 765** - Private Corrado Piccoli Purple Heart Preservation Act  
**S. 764** - Veterans Education Priority Enrollment Act of 2017  
**S. 726** - Gary Deloney and John Olsen Toxic Exposure Declassification Act  
**S. 706** - Quicker Veterans Benefits Delivery Act of 2017  
**S. 700** - Women Veterans and Families Health Services Act of 2017  
**S. 681** - Deborah Sampson Act  
**S. 624** - A bill to allow servicemembers to terminate their cable, satellite television, and Internet access service contracts while deployed.  
**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 and Veterans Act of 2017  
**S. 426** - Physician Assistant Employment and Education Act of 2017  
**S. 422** - Blue Water Navy Vietnam Veterans Act of 2017  
**S. 339** - Military Widow's Tax Elimination Act of 2017  
**S. 324** - State Veterans Home Adult Day Health Care Improvement Act of 2017  
**S. 283** - Mark Takai Atomic Veterans Healthcare Parity Act  
**S. 242** - A bill to permit veterans to grant access to their records in the databases of the VBA to certain designated congressional employees.  
**S. 115** - Veterans Transplant Coverage Act  
**S. 112** - Creating a Reliable Environment for Veterans' Dependents Act  
**S. 66** - Retired Pay Restoration Act  
**S. 23** - Biological Implant Tracking and Veteran Safety Act of 2017  
**H.R. 4635** - Women Veterans Peer Counseling Enhancement Act  
**H.R. 4335** - Servicemember Family Burial Act  
**H.R. 4321** - Blast Exposure Protection Act of 2017  
**H.R. 4320** - Hear our Heroes Act of 2017  
**H.R. 4099** - To expand VA's Grant and Per Diem Program to include children of homeless veterans.  
**H.R. 3705** - Veterans Fair Debt Notice Act of 2017  
**H.R. 3656** - To provide for a consistent eligibility date for provision of VA memorial headstones and markers.  
**H.R. 3605** - Fairness for Korean DMZ Veterans Act of 2017  
**H.R. 3209** - Protecting Military Honor Act  
**H.R. 3122** - Veterans Care Financial Protection Act of 2017  
**H.R. 2781** - Ensuring Veteran Enterprise Participation in Strategic Sourcing Act  
**H.R. 2772** - SEA Act  
**H.R. 2749** - Protecting Business Opportunities for Veterans Act of 2017  
**H.R. 2652** - Veteran Overmedication Prevention Act of 2017  
**H.R. 2547** - Veterans Expanded Trucking Opportunities Act of 2017  
**H.R. 2452** - Deborah Sampson Act  
**H.R. 2372** - VETERAN Act  
**H.R. 2258** - ADVANCE Act  
**H.R. 2225** - Veterans Dog Training Therapy Act  
**H.R. 2147** - Veterans Treatment Court Improvement Act of 2017  
**H.R. 2123** - VETS Act of 2017  
**H.R. 2006** - VA Procurement Efficiency and Transparency Act

**H.R. 1972** - VA Billing Accountability Act  
**H.R. 1900** - National Veterans Memorial and Museum Act  
**H.R. 1725** - Quicker Veterans Benefits Delivery Act of 2017  
**H.R. 1721** - To designate an "American World War II City"  
**H.R. 1690** - Department of Veterans Affairs Bonus Transparency Act  
**H.R. 1681** - Women Veterans and Families Health Services Act of 2017  
**H.R. 1564** - VA Beneficiary Travel Act of 2017  
**H.R. 1390** - To extend burial benefits to certain veterans interred in State or tribal owned cemeteries.  
**H.R. 1259** - VA Accountability First Act of 2017  
**H.R. 1181** - Veterans 2nd Amendment Protection Act  
**H.R. 1162** - No Hero Left Untreated Act  
**H.R. 1133** - Veterans Transplant Coverage Act of 2017  
**H.R. 1100** - Veterans Preventive Health Coverage Fairness Act  
**H.R. 1063** - Veteran Prescription Continuity Act  
**H.R. 1005** - To improve the provision of adult day health care services for veterans.  
**H.R. 918** - Veteran Urgent Access to Mental Healthcare Act  
**H.R. 907** - Newborn Care Improvement Act  
**H.R. 888** - To amend title 38, United States Code, to improve dependency and indemnity compensation for survivors of certain totally disabled veterans.  
**H.R. 846** - Military Surviving Spouses Equity Act  
**H.R. 632** - Mark Takai Atomic Veterans Healthcare Parity Act  
**H.R. 544** - Private Corrado Piccoli Purple Heart Preservation Act  
**H.R. 506** - Preventing Crimes Against Veterans Act of 2017  
**H.R. 467** - VA Scheduling Accountability Act  
**H.R. 303** - Retired Pay Restoration Act  
**H.R. 299** - Blue Water Navy Vietnam Veterans Act of 2017  
**H.R. 282** - Military Residency Choice Act  
**H.R. 216** - Second Division Memorial Modification Act  
**H.R. 105** - Protect Veterans from Financial Fraud Act of 2017  
**H.R. 95** - Veterans' Access to Child Care Act  
**H.R. 93** - To provide for increased access to VA medical care for women veterans.  
**H.R. 91** - Building Supportive Networks for Women Veterans Act  
**H.R. 28** - Biological Implant Tracking and Veteran Safety Act of 2017  
**H.R. 27** - Ensuring VA Employee Accountability Act  
**H.R. 10** - Financial CHOICE Act of 2017



The background of the image features a close-up of the American flag's stars and stripes on the left, and a wooden gavel resting on a surface on the right. The gavel is made of dark wood and has a polished metal head. The lighting is dramatic, highlighting the textures of the wood and the fabric of the flag.

**EDUCATE, INFORM,  
PROVIDE ACCESS**

**THANK YOU TO ALL OUR  
RELIABLE SOURCES**