



## 2024 PRIORITY GOALS

### Support Today's Veterans and Military

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

### Play a Role in the Process

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

- Visit [vfw.org/JoinActionCorps](https://vfw.org/JoinActionCorps)
- Text "VFW" to 50457\*
- Scan QR Code below

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



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**NO ONE DOES MORE FOR VETERANS.**



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



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### Budget

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

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

### Education, Employment, and Transition Assistance

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

- Improve education benefits through increased online student housing allowances, child care stipends, parity for Guard and Reserve members, and elimination of delimiting dates.
- Enhance outreach and counseling to veterans eligible for the Veteran Readiness and Employment program.
- Ensure parity of VA and DOD education programs with other federal programs.
- Expand small business, hiring preference, tax incentives, and entrepreneurship resources for veterans and military spouses.
- Increase funding for HUD-VASH vouchers, grant and per diem payments, and pilot programs to combat veteran homelessness.
- Conduct oversight of VA's Transition Assistance Program to ensure compliance with the law, and require the inclusion of accredited claims representatives.
- Eliminate red tape preventing effective use of education and employment benefits.
- Provide housing relief for surviving spouses.

### Disability Assistance and Memorial Affairs

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

- Crack down on unaccredited claims consultants known as Claim Sharks.
- Study all toxic and environmental exposures, and implement programs to ensure health care and benefits are provided to all exposed service members and veterans.
- Properly oversee and update the modernized appeals process and digital claims processing.
- Increase Dependency and Indemnity Compensation benefits for survivors.
- Improve the accuracy of disability compensation claims related to military sexual trauma.
- Increase burial allowances to account for inflation.
- Ensure that earned VA benefits are never offset by the use of other federal benefits.

### Health Care

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

- Eliminate service member and veteran suicide by addressing both clinical and non-clinical needs.
- Strengthen care and research for mental health and traumatic brain injuries.
- Improve oversight of Vet Centers to ensure adequate staffing, resources, and funding.
- Enhance programs and services for women and underserved veterans.
- Eliminate copayment requirements for preventive health care and medications.
- Research the efficacy of medical cannabis and other alternative therapies.
- Preserve the integrity of TRICARE.
- Properly implement VA and DOD health IT systems.
- Expand nursing home eligibility and long-term care options.
- Enhance services for veterans outside of the United States.

### Military Quality of Life

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

- End the military retirement pay and VA disability compensation offset.
- Protect and improve on-base quality of life and support programs.
- Eliminate sexual assault and harassment from the military.
- Increase military base pay comparability with private sector wages.
- Ensure that military housing is safe and free of toxic substances.
- Eliminate food insecurity in the military.
- Ensure equity of benefits for Reserve Component service members.

### National Security, Foreign Affairs, and POW/MIA

To fully support the all-volunteer force, protect our nation's citizens, and defend American interests around the world, Congress and DOD must:

- Ensure DPAA is fully funded to perform its personnel recovery mission.
- Expand partnerships with host nations and private/public organizations to achieve the fullest possible accounting of U.S. military personnel missing from all wars.
- Deter threats to our national security by supporting our allies in Ukraine, Israel, Korea, and Taiwan.
- Ensure all service members who served in harm's way, to include foreign nationals, receive the recognition, care, and benefits they have earned.
- Provide recognition and support for Afghan and Iraqi translators and allies.
- Award the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal for operations in Eastern Europe.