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Legislation Endorsed by Veterans & Military Families for Progress for the 112th Congress

Note: This information is current as of August 14, 2011

[For more information about these measures and how your lawmakers stand on these issues, visit the Library of Congress website at www.thomas.gov, or GovTrack.us at www.govtrack.us/congress/legislation.xpd

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To get involved in VMFP actions in support of any these items, send an email to president@vmfp.org

Legislation title in red indicates designation as priority legislation.

The following legislation has been recommended by the National Government Affairs Committee and approved by the Board for endorsement and ongoing VMFP support activities:

U.S. House of Representatives

H.R. 287 Homes for Heroes Act of 2011 To provide housing assistance for very low income veterans.

H.R. 561 Veterans Employment Tax Credit Act of 2011 – Amends Internal Revenue code to extend work opportunity tax credit with respect to veterans.

H.R. 804 To amend title 38 USC to clarify the eligibility of certain veterans who serve in support of Operation New Dawn for hospital care, medical services, and nursing home care provided by the Department of Veterans Affairs.

H.R. 805 To direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to educate certain staff of the Department of Veterans Affairs and to inform veterans about the Injured and Amputee Veterans Bill of Rights.

H.R. 806 End Veteran Homelessness Act of 2011 – To amend title 38 USC to make certain improvements in the services provided for homeless veterans under the laws administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs.

H.R. 809 To direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to display in each facility of the Department of Veterans Affairs a Women Veterans Bill of Rights.

H.R. 810 Fair Access to Veterans Benefits Act of 2011 - A bill to require the Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims (CAVC) to hear appeals of Board of Veterans' Appeals (BVA) denials of claims when circumstances beyond their control cause them to be unable to meet the 120-day statutory deadline for appeals.

H.R. 812 Agent Orange Equity Act of 2011 Amends title 38, USC, to clarify presumptions relating to the exposure of certain veterans who served in the vicinity of the Republic of Vietnam.

H.R. 814 VA Medicare Reimbursement Act of 2011 To provide Medicare payments to Department of Veterans Affairs facilities for items and services provided to Medicare-eligible veterans for non-service-connected conditions.

H.R. 1263 To amend the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act to provide surviving spouses with certain protections relating to mortgages and mortgage foreclosures.

H.R. 1297 Ensuring Pay for Our Military Act of 2011 Provides for paying servicemembers in the event of a government shutdown.

H.R. 1312 Jobs for Veterans Act of 2011 To amend the IRS Code to allow an increased work opportunity credit with respect to recent veterans, and for other purposes.

H.R. 1383 Restoring GI Bill Fairness Act of 2011 To temporarily preserve higher rates for tuition and fees for programs of education at non-public institutions of higher learning pursued by individuals enrolled in the Post-9/11 Educational Assistance Program of the Department of Veterans Affairs before the enactment of the Post-9/11 Veterans Educational Assistance Improvements Act of 2010, and for other purposes. [Passed House: 5/23/11; passed Senate 7/21/11; signed by President 8/03/11. Now Public Law 112-26.](#)

H.R. 1407 - Veterans' Compensation Cost-of-Living Adjustment Act of 2011 To increase, effective as of December 1, 2011, 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. [Passed House 5/23/2011.](#)

H.R. 1484 Veterans Appeals Improvement Act of 2011 To amend title 38, United States Code, to improve the appeals process of the Department of Veterans Affairs and to establish a commission to study judicial review of the determination of veterans' benefits. [Passed House 5/31/2011.](#)

H.R. 1517 Holly Lynn James Act To amend titles 10 and 28, United States Code, to provide for military sexual assault and domestic violence accountability, and for other purposes.

H.R. 1671 Andrew Connolly Veterans' Housing Act To amend title 38, United States Code, to extend the authority of the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to provide specially adapted housing assistance to individuals residing temporarily in housing owned by a family member.

H.R. 1941 Hiring Heroes Act of 2011 To improve the provision of Federal transition, rehabilitation, vocational, and unemployment benefits to members of the Armed Forces and veterans, and for other purposes.

H.R. 2433 Veterans Opportunity to Work Act of 2011 To amend title 38, United States Code, to make certain improvements in the laws relating to the employment and training of veterans, and for other purposes.

U.S. Senate

S. 411 Helping Our Homeless Veterans Act of 2011 A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to authorize the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to enter into agreements with States and nonprofit organizations to collaborate in the provision of case management services associated with certain supported housing programs for veterans, and for other purposes.

S. 724 Ensuring Pay for Our Military Act of 2011 Provides for paying servicemembers in the event of a government shutdown.

S. 951 Hiring Heroes Act of 2011 A bill to improve the provision of Federal transition, rehabilitation, vocational, and unemployment benefits to members of the Armed Forces and veterans, and for other purposes.

Veterans and Military Families for Progress is dedicated to ensuring that the rights and needs of veterans, active-duty service members, and their families are understood by the American public, endorsed by our elected officials, and protected by legislation, regulation and public policy initiatives

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