

# VETERAN LEGISLATION

## 13 March 2011

Of the 1055 House and 564 Senate pieces of legislation introduced in the 112th Congress as of 13 MAR, the following are of interest to the non-active duty veteran community. A good indication on the likelihood of a bill of being forwarded to the House or Senate for passage and subsequently being signed into law by the President is the number of cosponsors who have signed onto the bill. An alternate way for it to become law is if it is added as an addendum to another bill such as the annual National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) and survives the conference committee assigned to iron out the difference between the House and Senate bills. At <http://thomas.loc.gov> you can review a copy of each bill's text, determine its current status, the committee it has been assigned to, who your representative is and his/her phone number, mailing address, or email/website to communicate with a message or letter of your own making, and if your legislator is a sponsor or cosponsor of it. To separately determine what bills, amendments your representative has sponsored, cosponsored, or dropped sponsorship on refer to <http://thomas.loc.gov/bss/d1111/sponlst.html>. To review a numerical list of all bills introduced refer to <http://thomas.loc.gov/bss/111search.html>.

### The Following Color Codes Apply to the Bills Listed Below

1. Bills that are being pushed by various veterans groups for passage include a website highlighted in red which if clicked on will take the reader to a preformatted message for automatic transmission to their legislator requesting he/she support the bill.
2. Bill numbers that have passed either the House or Senate and have been forwarded to the other chamber for action are highlighted in Green.
3. Bills that have passed both chambers of Congress and been signed into law are highlighted in Blue.
4. Bills that the RAO considers to have the highest priority are highlighted in Yellow.
5. Bill numbers that have been incorporated in other bills are highlighted in Gray.
6. Bill numbers and titles in vilot (if any) are new additions to this summary.

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## House Bills

H.R.23 : **Belated Thank You to the Merchant Mariners of World War II Act of 2011.** A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to establish the Merchant Mariner Equity Compensation Fund to provide benefits to certain individuals who served in the United States merchant marine (including the Army Transport Service and the Naval Transport Service) during World War II.

Sponsor: Rep Filner, Bob [CA-51] (introduced 1/5/2011)    Cosponsors (18)  
Committees: House Veterans' Affairs  
Latest Major Action: 1/5/2011 Referred to House committee. Status: Referred to the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

To support this bill and/or contact your legislators send a message via  
<http://capwiz.com/naus/issues/alert/?alertid=21643506>

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H.R.28 : **Veterans Outreach Improvement Act of 2011.** A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to improve the outreach activities of the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: Rep McIntyre, Mike [NC-7] (introduced 1/5/2011)    Cosponsors (None)  
Committees: House Veterans' Affairs  
Latest Major Action: 1/5/2011 Referred to House committee. Status: Referred to the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

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H.R.46 : **Fallen Heroes Family Act of 2011.** A bill to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to provide for nonimmigrant status for an alien who is the parent or legal guardian of a United States citizen child if the child was born abroad and is the child of a deceased member of the Armed Forces of the United States.

Sponsor: Rep Issa, Darrell E. [CA-49] (introduced 1/5/2011)    Cosponsors (None)  
Committees: House Judiciary  
Latest Major Action: 1/24/2011 Referred to House subcommittee. Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on Immigration Policy and Enforcement.

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H.R.79 : **Dependent Care Act of 2011.** A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to provide certain abused dependents of veterans with health care.

Sponsor: Rep Jackson Lee, Sheila [TX-18] (introduced 1/5/2011)    Cosponsors (None)  
Committees: House Veterans' Affairs  
Latest Major Action: 1/5/2011 Referred to House committee. Status: Referred to the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

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H.R.115 : **CHAMPVA Children's Protection Act of 2011.** A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to increase the maximum age for children eligible for medical care under the CHAMPVA program.

Sponsor: Rep Filner, Bob [CA-51] (introduced 1/5/2011)    Cosponsors (None)  
Committees: House Veterans' Affairs  
Latest Major Action: 1/5/2011 Referred to House committee. Status: Referred to the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

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H.R.117 : **HELP Veterans Act of 2011.** A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to make certain improvements in the laws administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: Rep Filner, Bob [CA-51] (introduced 1/5/2011)    Cosponsors (None)  
Committees: House Veterans' Affairs  
Latest Major Action: 1/5/2011 Referred to House committee. Status: Referred to the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

**H.R.120 : Disabled Veterans' Surviving Spouses Home Loans Act.** A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to provide for eligibility for housing loans guaranteed by the Department of Veterans Affairs for the surviving spouses of certain totally-disabled veterans.

Sponsor: Rep Foxx, Virginia [NC-5] (introduced 1/5/2011) Cosponsors (9)

Committees: House Veterans' Affairs

Latest Major Action: 1/5/2011 Referred to House committee. Status: Referred to the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

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**H.R.136 : Taxpayer Payment Designation to Homeless Vets.** A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow taxpayers to designate a portion of their income tax payment to provide assistance to homeless veterans, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: Rep Israel, Steve [NY-2] (introduced 1/5/2011) Cosponsors (6)

Committees: House Ways and Means; House Veterans' Affairs

Latest Major Action: 1/5/2011 Referred to House committee. Status: Referred to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

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**H.R.159 : TBI Treatment Act.** A bill to direct the Secretary of Defense and the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to carry out a pilot program under which the Secretaries make payments for certain treatments of traumatic brain injury and post-traumatic stress disorder.

Sponsor: Rep Sessions, Pete [TX-32] (introduced 1/5/2011) Cosponsors (None)

Committees: House Armed Services; House Veterans' Affairs

Latest Major Action: 2/4/2011 Referred to House subcommittee. Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on Military Personnel.

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**H.R.168 : VA Care for Obstructive Pulmonary Disease.** A bill to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to improve the prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of veterans with chronic obstructive pulmonary disease.

Sponsor: Rep Stearns, Cliff [FL-6] (introduced 1/5/2011) Cosponsors (1)

Committees: House Veterans' Affairs

Latest Major Action: 1/5/2011 Referred to House committee. Status: Referred to the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

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**H.R.169 : Publicize VA VetSuccess Internet Website.** A bill to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to include on the main page of the Internet website of the Department of Veterans Affairs a hyperlink to the VetSuccess Internet website and to publicize such Internet website.

Sponsor: Rep Stearns, Cliff [FL-6] (introduced 1/5/2011) Cosponsors (None)

Committees: House Veterans' Affairs

Latest Major Action: 1/5/2011 Referred to House committee. Status: Referred to the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

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**H.R.178 : Military Surviving Spouses Equity Act.** A bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to repeal the requirement for reduction of survivor annuities under the Survivor Benefit Plan for military surviving spouses to offset the receipt of veterans dependency and indemnity compensation.

Sponsor: Rep Wilson, Joe [SC-2] (introduced 1/5/2011) Cosponsors (84)

Committees: House Armed Services

Latest Major Action: 2/4/2011 Referred to House subcommittee. Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on Military Personnel.

To support this bill and/or contact your legislators send a message via

<http://capwiz.com/usdr/issues/alert/?alertid=21785541&type=CO> or TREA's

<http://www.capwiz.com/trea/issues/bills/?bill=22113586>

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**H.R.179 : Health Care for Under 60 Retired Reserves.** A bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to eliminate the requirement that certain former members of the reserve components of the Armed Forces be at least 60 years of age in order to be eligible to receive health care benefits.

Sponsor: Rep Wilson, Joe [SC-2] (introduced 1/5/2011) Cosponsors (1)

Committees: House Armed Services

Latest Major Action: 1/5/2011 Referred to House committee. Status: Referred to the House Committee on Armed Services.

To support this bill and/or contact your legislators send a message via

<http://www.capwiz.com/trea/issues/bills/?bill=22113711>

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**H.R.181 : National Guardsmen and Reservists Parity for Patriots Act.** A bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to ensure that members of the reserve components of the Armed Forces who have served on active duty or performed active service since September 11, 2001, in support of a contingency operation or in other emergency situations receive credit for such service in determining eligibility for early receipt of non-regular service retired pay, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: Rep Wilson, Joe [SC-2] (introduced 1/5/2011) Cosponsors (17)

Committees: House Armed Services

Latest Major Action: 2/4/2011 Referred to House subcommittee. Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on Military Personnel.

To support this bill and/or contact your legislators send a message via

<http://www.capwiz.com/trea/issues/bills/?bill=22113641>

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**H.R.186 : Chapter 61 CRDP Eligibility.** A bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to expand the eligibility for concurrent receipt of military retired pay and veterans' disability compensation to include all members of the uniformed services who are retired under chapter 61 of such title for disability, regardless of the members' disability rating percentage.

Sponsor: Rep Wilson, Joe [SC-2] (introduced 1/5/2011) Cosponsors (10)

Committees: House Armed Services; House Budget; House Veterans' Affairs

Latest Major Action: 2/4/2011 Referred to House subcommittee. Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on Military Personnel.

To support this bill and/or contact your legislators send a message via

[http://capwiz.com/usdr/issues/alert/?alertid=21781506&queueid=\[capwiz:queue\\_id\]](http://capwiz.com/usdr/issues/alert/?alertid=21781506&queueid=[capwiz:queue_id]) or TREA's

<http://www.capwiz.com/trea/issues/bills/?bill=22113501>

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**H.R.198 : Veterans Dog Training Therapy Act.** A bill to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to carry out a pilot program on dog training therapy.

Sponsor: Rep Grimm, Michael G. [NY-13] (introduced 1/6/2011) Cosponsors (41)

Committees: House Veterans' Affairs

Latest Major Action: 1/6/2011 Referred to House committee. Status: Referred to the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

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**H.R.208 : Tricare Mental Health Counselor Reimbursement.** A bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to authorize the reimbursement of mental health counselors under TRICARE, and for other purposes.  
Sponsor: Rep Rooney, Thomas J. [FL-16] (introduced 1/6/2011)   Cosponsors (1)  
Committees: House Armed Services  
Latest Major Action: 2/4/2011 Referred to House subcommittee. Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on Military Personnel.  
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**H.R.210 : Filipino Veterans Fairness Act of 2011.** 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.  
Sponsor: Rep Speier, Jackie [CA-12] (introduced 1/6/2011)   Cosponsors (None)  
Committees: House Veterans' Affairs  
Latest Major Action: 1/6/2011 Referred to House committee. Status: Referred to the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs.  
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**H.R.238 : Military Retiree Health Care Relief Act of 2011.** A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow a refundable credit to military retirees for premiums paid for coverage under Medicare Part B.  
Sponsor: Rep Emerson, Jo Ann [MO-8] (introduced 1/7/2011)   Cosponsors (8)  
Committees: House Ways and Means  
Latest Major Action: 1/7/2011 Referred to House committee. Status: Referred to the House Committee on Ways and Means.  
**To support this bill and/or contact your legislators send a message via**  
[http://capwiz.com/usdr/issues/alert/?alertid=23523796&queueid=\[capwiz:queue\\_id\]](http://capwiz.com/usdr/issues/alert/?alertid=23523796&queueid=[capwiz:queue_id])  
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**H.R.240 : Promote Vet Jobs with DVA Sole Source Contracts.** A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to promote jobs for veterans through the use of sole source contracts by Department of Veterans Affairs for purposes of meeting the contracting goals and preferences of the Department of Veterans Affairs for small business concerns owned and controlled by veterans.  
Sponsor: Rep Filner, Bob [CA-51] (introduced 1/7/2011)   Cosponsors (None)  
Committees: House Veterans' Affairs  
Latest Major Action: 1/7/2011 Referred to House committee. Status: Referred to the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs.  
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**H.R.248 : Depleted Uranium Screening and Testing Act.** A bill to provide for identification of members of the Armed Forces exposed during military service to depleted uranium, to provide for health testing of such members, and for other purposes.  
Sponsor: Rep Serrano, Jose E. [NY-16] (introduced 1/7/2011)   Cosponsors (None)  
Committees: House Armed Services  
Latest Major Action: 2/4/2011 Referred to House subcommittee. Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on Military Personnel.  
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**H.R.284 : Veterans, Women, Families with Children, and Persons With Disabilities Housing Fairness Act of 2011.** A bill to authorize funds to prevent housing discrimination through the use of nationwide testing, to increase funds for the Fair Housing Initiatives Program, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: Rep Green, Al [TX-9] (introduced 1/12/2011) Cosponsors (21)

Committees: House Financial Services

Latest Major Action: 1/12/2011 Referred to House committee. Status: Referred to the House Committee on Financial Services.

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**H.R.287 : Homes for Heroes Act of 2011.** A bill to provide housing assistance for very low-income veterans.

Sponsor: Rep Green, Al [TX-9] (introduced 1/12/2011) Cosponsors (29)

Committees: House Financial Services; House Ways and Means

Latest Major Action: 1/12/2011 Referred to House committee. Status: Referred to the Committee on Financial Services, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

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**H.R.303 : Retired Pay Restoration Act.** A bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to permit additional retired members of the Armed Forces who have a service-connected disability to receive both disability compensation from the Department of Veterans Affairs for their disability and either retired pay by reason of their years of military service or Combat-Related Special Compensation and to eliminate the phase-in period under current law with respect to such concurrent receipt.

Sponsor: Rep Bilirakis, Gus M. [FL-9] (introduced 1/18/2011) Cosponsors (40)

Committees: House Armed Services; House Veterans' Affairs

Latest Major Action: 2/4/2011 Referred to House subcommittee. Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on Military Personnel.

To support this bill and/or contact your legislators send a message via <http://www.capwiz.com/trea/issues/bills/?bill=23349501>

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**H.R.309 : Samuel B. Moody Bataan Death March Compensation Act.** A bill to provide compensation for certain World War II veterans who survived the Bataan Death March and were held as prisoners of war by the Japanese.

Sponsor: Rep Mica, John L. [FL-7] (introduced 1/18/2011) Cosponsors (None)

Committees: House Armed Services

Latest Major Action: 2/4/2011 Referred to House subcommittee. Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on Military Personnel.

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**H.R.319 : Veterans Day Off Act.** A bill to require employers to provide veterans with time off on Veterans Day.

Sponsor: Rep Braley, Bruce L. [IA-1] (introduced 1/19/2011) Cosponsors (None)

Committees: House Education and the Workforce

Latest Major Action: 1/19/2011 Referred to House committee. Status: Referred to the House Committee on Education and the Workforce.

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**H.R.333 : The Disabled Veterans Tax Termination Act.** A bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to

permit retired members of the Armed Forces who have a service-connected disability rated less than 50 percent to receive concurrent payment of both retired pay and veterans' disability compensation, to eliminate the phase-in period for concurrent receipt, to extend eligibility for concurrent receipt to chapter 61 disability retirees with less than 20 years of service, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: Rep Bishop, Sanford D., Jr. [GA-2] (introduced 1/19/2011) Cosponsors (104)

Committees: House Armed Services; House Veterans' Affairs

Latest Major Action: 2/4/2011 Referred to House subcommittee. Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on Military Personnel.

To support this bill and/or contact your legislators send a message via

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<http://www.capwiz.com/trea/issues/bills/?bill=23355556>

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**H.R.396 : TBI Treatment Act.** A bill to direct the Secretary of Defense and the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to carry out a pilot program under which the Secretaries make payments for certain treatments of traumatic brain injury and post-traumatic stress disorder.

Sponsor: Rep Sessions, Pete [TX-32] (introduced 1/24/2011) Cosponsors (2)

Committees: House Armed Services; House Veterans' Affairs

Latest Major Action: 2/4/2011 Referred to House subcommittee. Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on Military Personnel.

To support this bill and/or contact your legislators send a message via

[http://capwiz.com/usdr/issues/alert/?alertid=31989511&queueid=\[capwiz:queue\\_id\]](http://capwiz.com/usdr/issues/alert/?alertid=31989511&queueid=[capwiz:queue_id])

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**H.R.420 : Veterans' Heritage Firearms Act of 2011.** A bill to provide an amnesty period during which veterans and their family members can register certain firearms in the National Firearms Registration and Transfer Record, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: Rep Rehberg, Denny [MT] (introduced 1/25/2011) Cosponsors (14)

Committees: House Judiciary; House Ways and Means

Latest Major Action: 2/7/2011 Referred to House subcommittee. Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, and Homeland Security.

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**H.R.493 : Military Retiree Survivor Comfort Act.** A bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to provide for forgiveness of certain overpayments of retired pay paid to deceased retired members of the Armed Forces following their death.

Sponsor: Rep Jones, Walter B., Jr. [NC-3] (introduced 1/26/2011) Cosponsors (2)

Committees: House Armed Services

Latest Major Action: 2/4/2011 Referred to House subcommittee. Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on Military Personnel.

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**H.R.540 : In Memory Medal for Forgotten Veterans Act.** A bill to direct the Secretary of Defense to issue a medal to honor veterans of the Armed Forces who died after their service in the Vietnam War, but whose deaths were a direct result of their service in the Vietnam War.

Sponsor: Rep Filner, Bob [CA-51] (introduced 2/8/2011) Cosponsors (None)

Committees: House Armed Services

Latest Major Action: 2/8/2011 Referred to House committee. Status: Referred to the House Committee on Armed Services.

**H.R.544 : Servicemen Mortgage Foreclosure Protection.** A bill to amend the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act to permanently extend the period of protections for servicemembers against mortgage foreclosures, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: Rep Filner, Bob [CA-51] (introduced 2/8/2011) Cosponsors (3)

Committees: House Veterans' Affairs

Latest Major Action: 2/8/2011 Referred to House committee. Status: Referred to the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

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**H.R.545 : Providing Military Honors for our Nation's Heroes Act.** A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to authorize the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to reimburse certain volunteers who provide funeral honors details at the funerals of veterans.

Sponsor: Rep Filner, Bob [CA-51] (introduced 2/8/2011) Cosponsors (None) Related bill H.R.811

Committees: House Veterans' Affairs

Latest Major Action: 2/8/2011 Referred to House committee. Status: Referred to the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

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**H.R.561 : Veterans Employment Tax Credit Act of 2011.** A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend the work opportunity tax credit with respect to veterans.

Sponsor: Rep Welch, Peter [VT] (introduced 2/8/2011) Cosponsors (None)

Committees: House Ways and Means

Latest Major Action: 2/8/2011 Referred to House committee. Status: Referred to the House Committee on Ways and Means.

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**H.R.575 : HEALTHY Vets Act of 2011.** A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to enter into contracts with community health care providers to improve access to health care for veterans in highly rural areas, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: Rep Pearce, Stevan [NM-2] (introduced 2/9/2011) Cosponsors (None)

Committees: House Veterans' Affairs

Latest Major Action: 2/9/2011 Referred to House committee. Status: Referred to the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

To support this bill and/or contact your legislators send a message via [http://capwiz.com/usdr/issues/alert/?alertid=32026521&queueid=\[capwiz:queue\\_id\]](http://capwiz.com/usdr/issues/alert/?alertid=32026521&queueid=[capwiz:queue_id])

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**H.R.595 : National Song of Remembrance.** A bill to amend title 36, United States Code, to designate the musical piece commonly known as "Taps" as the National Song of Remembrance, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: Rep Reed, Tom [NY-29] (introduced 2/9/2011) Cosponsors (6)

Committees: House Judiciary; House Veterans' Affairs

Latest Major Action: 2/28/2011 Referred to House subcommittee. Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on the Constitution.

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**H.R.648 : Pledge of Allegiance Saluting.** A bill to amend title 4, United States Code, to authorize members of the Armed Forces not in uniform and veterans to render a military salute during the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.

Sponsor: Rep Terry, Lee [NE-2] (introduced 2/10/2011) Cosponsors (None)

Committees: House Judiciary

Latest Major Action: 2/10/2011 Referred to House committee. Status: Referred to the House Committee on the Judiciary.

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H.R.652 : **Tricare Premium Limits.** A bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to limit the increase of premiums, deductibles, copayments, or other charges for health care provided under the TRICARE program.  
Sponsor: Rep Young, Don [AK] (introduced 2/10/2011) Cosponsors (3)

Committees: House Armed Services

Latest Major Action: 3/3/2011 Referred to House subcommittee. Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on Military Personnel.

To support this bill and/or contact your legislators send a message via  
[http://capwiz.com/usdr/issues/alert/?alertid=32098506&queueid=\[capwiz:queue\\_id\]](http://capwiz.com/usdr/issues/alert/?alertid=32098506&queueid=[capwiz:queue_id])

H.R.743 : **Hire A Hero Act of 2011.** A bill to To amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow the work opportunity credit to small businesses which hire individuals who are members of the Ready Reserve or National Guard.

Sponsor: Rep Jenkins, Lynn [KS-2] (introduced 2/16/2011) Cosponsors (5) Related bill S.367

Committees: House Ways and Means

Latest Major Action: 2/16/2011 Referred to House committee. Status: Referred to the House Committee on Ways and Means.

H.R.776 : **Guaranteed 3% COLA for Seniors Act of 2011.** A bill to To require the establishment of a Consumer Price Index for Elderly Consumers to compute cost-of-living increases for Social Security benefits under title II of the Social Security Act and to provide, in the case of elderly beneficiaries under such title, for an annual cost-of-living increase which is not less than 3 percent.

Sponsor: Rep Engel, Eliot L. [NY-17] (introduced 2/17/2011) Cosponsors (None)

Committees: House Ways and Means; House Education and the Workforce

Latest Major Action: 2/17/2011 Referred to House committee. Status: Referred to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committee on Education and the Workforce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

H.R.802 : **VetStar Award Program.** A bill to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to establish a VetStar Award Program.

Sponsor: Rep Filner, Bob [CA-51] (introduced 2/18/2011) Cosponsors (None)

Committees: House Veterans' Affairs

Latest Major Action: 2/18/2011 Referred to House committee. Status: Referred to the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

H.R.803 : **Equity for Injured Veterans Act of 2011.** A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to increase vocational rehabilitation and employment assistance, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: Rep Filner, Bob [CA-51] (introduced 2/18/2011) Cosponsors (None)

Committees: House Veterans' Affairs

Latest Major Action: 2/18/2011 Referred to House committee. Status: Referred to the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

H.R.804 : **Operation New Dawn Vet Care.** A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, 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.

Sponsor: Rep Filner, Bob [CA-51] (introduced 2/18/2011)    Cosponsors (None)  
Committees: House Veterans' Affairs  
Latest Major Action: 2/18/2011 Referred to House committee. Status: Referred to the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

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**H.R.805 : Injured and Amputee Veterans Bill of Rights Education.** A bill 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, and for other purposes.  
Sponsor: Rep Filner, Bob [CA-51] (introduced 2/18/2011)    Cosponsors (None)  
Committees: House Veterans' Affairs  
Latest Major Action: 2/18/2011 Referred to House committee. Status: Referred to the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

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**H.R.806 : End Veteran Homelessness Act of 2011.** A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to make certain improvements in the services provided for homeless veterans under the administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs.  
Sponsor: Rep Filner, Bob [CA-51] (introduced 2/18/2011)    Cosponsors (None)  
Committees: House Veterans' Affairs  
Latest Major Action: 2/18/2011 Referred to House committee. Status: Referred to the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

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**H.R.809 : Post Women Veterans Bill of Rights.** To direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to display in each facility of the Department of Veterans Affairs a Women Veterans Bill of Rights.  
Sponsor: Rep Filner, Bob [CA-51] (introduced 2/18/2011)    Cosponsors (None)  
Committees: House Veterans' Affairs  
Latest Major Action: 2/18/2011 Referred to House committee. Status: Referred to the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

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**H.R.810 : Fair Access to Veterans Benefits Act of 2011** A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to provide for the tolling of the timing of review for appeals of final decisions of the Board of Veterans' Appeals, and for other purposes.  
Sponsor: Rep Filner, Bob [CA-51] (introduced 2/18/2011)    Cosponsors (None)  
Committees: House Veterans' Affairs  
Latest Major Action: 2/18/2011 Referred to House committee. Status: Referred to the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

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**H.R.811 : Providing Military Honors for our Nation's Heroes Act.** A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to authorize the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to reimburse certain volunteers who provide funeral honors details at the funerals of veterans.  
Sponsor: Rep Filner, Bob [CA-51] (introduced 2/18/2011) Cosponsors (None) Related bill H.R.545  
Committees: House Veterans' Affairs  
Latest Major Action: 2/18/2011 Referred to House committee. Status: Referred to the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

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812. H.R.812 : **Agent Orange Equity Act of 2011.** A bill to To amend title 38, United States Code, to clarify presumptions relating to the exposure of certain veterans who served in the vicinity of the Republic of Vietnam.

Sponsor: Rep Filner, Bob [CA-51] (introduced 2/18/2011) Cosponsors (1)

Committees: House Veterans' Affairs

Latest Major Action: 2/18/2011 Referred to House committee. Status: Referred to the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

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H.R.813 : **Vet Survivor Benefit Eligibility.** To amend title 38, United States Code, to reduce the period of time for which a veteran must be totally disabled before the veteran's survivors are eligible for the benefits provided by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs for survivors of certain veterans rated totally disabled at time of death.

Sponsor: Rep Filner, Bob [CA-51] (introduced 2/18/2011) Cosponsors (None)

Committees: House Veterans' Affairs

Latest Major Action: 2/18/2011 Referred to House committee. Status: Referred to the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

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

Sponsor: Rep Filner, Bob [CA-51] (introduced 2/18/2011) Cosponsors (None)

Committees: House Ways and Means; House Energy and Commerce; House Veterans' Affairs

Latest Major Action: 2/18/2011 Referred to House committee. Status: Referred to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committees on Energy and Commerce, and Veterans' Affairs, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

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H.R.834 : **Veterans Home Loan Refinance Opportunity Act of 2011.** A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow eligible veterans to use qualified veterans mortgage bonds to refinance home loans, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: Rep Davis, Susan A. [CA-53] (introduced 2/28/2011) Cosponsors (8)

Committees: House Ways and Means

Latest Major Action: 2/28/2011 Referred to House committee. Status: Referred to the House Committee on Ways and Means.

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H.R.865 : **Veteran Employment Transition Act of 2011.** A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend the work opportunity credit to certain recently discharged veterans.

Sponsor: Rep Walz, Timothy J. [MN-1] (introduced 3/1/2011) Cosponsors (39)

Committees: House Ways and Means; House Armed Services

Latest Major Action: 3/1/2011 Referred to House committee. Status: Referred to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committee on Armed Services, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

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H.R.923 : **Veterans Pensions Protection Act of 2011.** A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to exempt reimbursements of expenses related to accident, theft, loss, or casualty loss from determinations of

annual income with respect to pensions for veterans and surviving spouses and children of veterans, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: Rep Hastings, Alcee L. [FL-23] (introduced 3/3/2011)    Cosponsors (38)

Committees: House Veterans' Affairs

Latest Major Action: 3/3/2011 Referred to House committee. Status: Referred to the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

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H.R.924 : **Jobs for Veterans Act of 2011.** A bill to amend the Small Business Act to establish a Veterans Business Center program, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: Rep Heinrich, Martin [NM-1] (introduced 3/3/2011)    Cosponsors (None)

Committees: House Small Business

Latest Major Action: 3/3/2011 Referred to House committee. Status: Referred to the House Committee on Small Business.

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H.R.930 : **PTSD Disability Compensation Evaluation.** A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to improve the disability compensation evaluation procedure of the Secretary of Veterans Affairs for veterans with post-traumatic stress disorder or mental health conditions related to military sexual trauma, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: Rep Pingree, Chellie [ME-1] (introduced 3/3/2011)    Cosponsors (None)

Committees: House Veterans' Affairs

Latest Major Action: 3/3/2011 Referred to House committee. Status: Referred to the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

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H.R.938 : **WWI Centennial Commission.** To establish a commission to ensure a suitable observance of the centennial of World War I and to designate memorials to the service of men and women of the United States in World War I.

Sponsor: Rep Poe, Ted [TX-2] (introduced 3/8/2011)    Cosponsors (2)

Committees: House Oversight and Government Reform; House Natural Resources

Latest Major Action: 3/8/2011 Referred to House committee. Status: Referred to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, and in addition to the Committee on Natural Resources, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

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H.R.943 : **K-9 Companion Corps Act.** A bill to establish a grant program to encourage the use of assistance dogs by certain members of the Armed Forces and veterans.

Sponsor: Rep Hirono, Mazie K. [HI-2] (introduced 3/8/2011)    Cosponsors (15)

Committees: House Armed Services; House Veterans' Affairs

Latest Major Action: 3/8/2011 Referred to House committee. Status: Referred to the Committee on Armed Services, and in addition to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

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H.R.948 : **Embedded Mental Health Providers for Reserves Act of 2011.** A bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to require the provision of behavioral health services to members of the reserve components of the Armed Forces necessary to meet pre-deployment and post-deployment readiness and fitness standards,

and for other purposes.

Sponsor: Rep Loeb sack, David [IA-2] (introduced 3/8/2011) Cosponsors (3) Related bill S.325

Committees: House Armed Services

Latest Major Action: 3/8/2011 Referred to House committee. Status: Referred to the House Committee on Armed Services.

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<http://capwiz.com/ngaus/officials/congress/?lvl=C&azip=92571&state=CA>

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H.R.961 : **Safe Haven for Heroes Act of 2011.** A bill to amend title 18, United States Code, with respect to the prohibition on disrupting military funerals, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: Rep Rupp ersberger, C. A. Dutch [MD-2] (introduced 3/8/2011) Cosponsors (None)

Committees: House Judiciary

Latest Major Action: 3/8/2011 Referred to House committee. Status: Referred to the House Committee on the Judiciary.

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H.R.1014 : **Children's Lapel Button for Parent's Service.** A bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to recognize the dependent children of members of the Armed Forces who are serving on active duty or who have served on active duty through the presentation of an official lapel button.

Sponsor: Rep Latta, Robert E. [OH-5] (introduced 3/10/2011) Cosponsors (3)

Committees: House Armed Services

Latest Major Action: 3/10/2011 Referred to House committee. Status: Referred to the House Committee on Armed Services.

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H.R.1025 : **Reserve Veteran Status.** A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to recognize the service in the reserve components of certain persons by honoring them with status as veterans under law.

Sponsor: Rep Walz, Timothy J. [MN-1] (introduced 3/10/2011) Cosponsors (2)

Committees: House Veterans' Affairs

Latest Major Action: 3/10/2011 Referred to House committee. Status: Referred to the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

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## Senate Bills

S.63 : **WWII Filipino Vet Claims.** A bill to require the Secretary of the Army to determine the validity of the claims of certain Filipinos that they performed military service on behalf of the United States during World War II.

Sponsor: Sen Inouye, Daniel K. [HI] (introduced 1/25/2011) Cosponsors (None)

Committees: Senate Veterans' Affairs

Latest Major Action: 1/25/2011 Referred to Senate committee. Status: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

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S.67 : **Disabled Vet Space “A” Travel.** A bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to permit former members of the Armed Forces who have a service-connected 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 are entitled to travel on such aircraft.

Sponsor: Sen Inouye, Daniel K. [HI] (introduced 1/25/2011) Cosponsors (None)

Committees: Senate Armed Services

Latest Major Action: 1/25/2011 Referred to Senate committee. Status: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Armed Services.

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S.68 : **POW Commissary/Exchange Use.** A bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to authorize certain disabled former prisoners of war to use Department of Defense commissary and exchange stores.

Sponsor: Sen Inouye, Daniel K. [HI] (introduced 1/25/2011) Cosponsors (None)

Committees: Senate Armed Services

Latest Major Action: 1/25/2011 Referred to Senate committee. Status: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Armed Services.

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S.70 : **Restore Memorial Day Observance.** A bill to restore the traditional day of observance of Memorial Day, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: Sen Inouye, Daniel K. [HI] (introduced 1/25/2011) Cosponsors (None)

Committees: Senate Judiciary

Latest Major Action: 1/25/2011 Referred to Senate committee. Status: Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

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S.146 : **Veteran Employment Transition Act of 2011.** A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend the work opportunity credit to certain recently discharged veterans.

Sponsor: Sen Baucus, Max [MT] (introduced 1/25/2011) Cosponsors (5)

Committees: Senate Finance

Latest Major Action: 1/25/2011 Referred to Senate committee. Status: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance.

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S.260 : **SBP DIC Offset.** 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.

Sponsor: Sen Nelson, Bill [FL] (introduced 2/2/2011) Cosponsors (28)

Committees: Senate Armed Services

Latest Major Action: 2/2/2011 Referred to Senate committee. Status: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Armed Services.

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S.277 : **Caring for Camp Lejeune Veterans Act of 2011.** A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to furnish hospital care, medical services, and nursing home care to veterans who were stationed at Camp

Lejeune, North Carolina, while the water was contaminated at Camp Lejeune, and for other purposes.  
Sponsor: Sen Burr, Richard [NC] (introduced 2/3/2011) Cosponsors (5)  
Committees: Senate Veterans' Affairs  
Latest Major Action: 2/3/2011 Referred to Senate committee. Status: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

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S.316 : **Fort Hood Victims and Families Benefits Protection Act.** A bill to ensure that the victims and victims' families of the November 5, 2009, attack at Fort Hood, Texas, receive the same treatment, benefits, and honors as those Americans who have been killed or wounded in a combat zone overseas and their families.

Sponsor: Sen Cornyn, John [TX] (introduced 2/10/2011) Cosponsors (2) Related bill H.R.625  
Committees: Senate Armed Services  
Latest Major Action: 2/10/2011 Referred to Senate committee. Status: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Armed Services.

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S.325 : **Embedded Mental Health Providers for Reserves Act of 2011.** A bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to require the provision of behavioral health services to members of the reserve components of the Armed Forces necessary to meet pre-deployment and post-deployment readiness and fitness standards, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: Sen Murray, Patty [WA] (introduced 2/10/2011) Cosponsors (3) Related bill H.R.948  
Committees: Senate Armed Services  
Latest Major Action: 2/10/2011 Referred to Senate committee. Status: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Armed Services.

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<http://capwiz.com/ngaus/officials/congress/?lvl=C&azip=92571&state=CA>

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S.344 : **Retired Pay Restoration Act of 2011.** A bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to permit certain retired members of the uniformed services who have a service-connected disability to receive both disability compensation from the Department of Veterans Affairs for their disability and either retired pay by reason of their years of military service or Combat-Related Special Compensation, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: Sen Reid, Harry [NV] (introduced 2/14/2011) Cosponsors (16)  
Committees: Senate Armed Services  
Latest Major Action: 2/14/2011 Referred to Senate committee. Status: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Armed Services.

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S.367 : **Hire A Hero Act of 2011.** A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow the work opportunity credit to small businesses which hire individuals who are members of the Ready Reserve or National Guard, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: Sen Brown, Scott P. [MA] (introduced 2/16/2011) Cosponsors (1) Related bill H.R.743  
Committees: Senate Finance  
Latest Major Action: 2/16/2011 Referred to Senate committee. Status: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance.

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S.402 : **Cold War Service Medal Act of 2011.** A bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to provide for

the award of a military service medal to members of the Armed Forces who served honorably during the Cold War, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: Sen Snowe, Olympia J. [ME] (introduced 2/17/2011) Cosponsors (3)

Committees: Senate Armed Services

Latest Major Action: 2/17/2011 Referred to Senate committee. Status: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Armed Services.

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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.

Sponsor: Sen Klobuchar, Amy [MN] (introduced 2/17/2011) Cosponsors (6)

Committees: Senate Veterans' Affairs

Latest Major Action: 2/17/2011 Referred to Senate committee. Status: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

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S.423 : **Fully Developed VA Claim Applications.** A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to provide authority for retroactive effective date for awards of disability compensation in connection with applications that are fully-developed at submittal, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: Sen Burr, Richard [NC] (introduced 3/1/2011) Cosponsors (None)

Committees: Senate Veterans' Affairs

Latest Major Action: 3/1/2011 Referred to Senate committee. Status: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

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S.536 : **Survivor Educational Assistance Limitations.** A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to provide that utilization of survivors' and dependents' educational assistance shall not be subject to the 48-month limitation on the aggregate amount of assistance utilizable under multiple veterans and related educational assistance programs.

Sponsor: Sen Webb, Jim [VA] (introduced 3/9/2011) Cosponsors (None)

Committees: Senate Veterans' Affairs

Latest Major Action: 3/9/2011 Referred to Senate committee. Status: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

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S.542 : **National Guard, Reserve, "Gray Area" Retiree, and Surviving Spouses Space-available Travel Equity Act of 2011.** A bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to authorize space-available travel on military aircraft for members of the reserve components, a member or former member of a reserve component who is eligible for retired pay but for age, widows and widowers of retired members, and dependents.

Sponsor: Sen Begich, Mark [AK] (introduced 3/10/2011) Cosponsors (None)

Committees: Senate Armed Services

Latest Major Action: 3/10/2011 Referred to Senate committee. Status: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Armed Services.

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