



September 22, 2025



House Passes NDAA Including VFW-Backed TAP Promotion Act:

The House passed [H.R.3838](#), *Streamlining Procurement for Effective Execution and Delivery and National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) for Fiscal Year 2026*, with a bipartisan vote of 231-196. Included in Section 562 is the *TAP Promotion Act*, which is a top priority for the VFW to ensure that transitioning service members have direct access to accredited representatives for VA claims assistance to enable prompt receipt of earned benefits. This inclusion reflects the VFW's ongoing advocacy efforts to streamline the benefits process and support successful reintegration into civilian life and careers. This legislation also authorizes a 3.8% pay raise for service members and allocates funds to increase military readiness end strength by approximately 26,000 troops in 2026. [Read more.](#)



House Passes 14 Veteran Bills:

Fourteen bipartisan veteran bills passed the House and now head to the Senate for consideration. They address a range of health care and benefits issues. VFW-supported bills include [H.R.3400](#), *TRAVEL Act of 2025*, to allow VA physicians to serve temporarily as traveling physicians in territories and possessions of the United States to provide health care services to veterans in underserved areas; [H.R.3951](#), *Rural Veterans' Improved Access to Benefits Act of 2025*, to extend license portability allowing eligible health care providers to perform disability examinations across state lines and expanding access for veterans; and [H.R.2334](#), *Servicemember Residence Protection Act*, to preempt state laws regarding squatter's rights for premises owned by individuals who are on active military service. [Read more.](#)



VFW Supports 3rd Annual TAPS Gold Star Families Advocacy Week: The VFW Washington Office hosted the 3rd Annual Tragedy Assistance Program for Survivors (TAPS) Advocacy Week Event. Together with partner veteran organizations, volunteers advocated for legislation to improve benefits and services for survivors. VFW National Legislative Deputy Director Nancy Springer and National Legislative Associate Director Gabby Kubinyi participated in meetings with members of Congress to show the VFW's strong support for [S.611](#) / [H.R.2055](#), *Caring for Survivors Act of 2025*, to increase Dependency and Indemnity Compensation, and also asked to extend CHAMPVA and TRICARE coverage for surviving children to age 26. [Read more.](#)



VA Dedicates New National Cemetery: The VA National Cemetery Administration (NCA) dedicated the Southern Utah National Cemetery in Cedar City, Utah, that is anticipated to eventually accommodate 13,434 gravesites containing both casketed and cremated remains. As one of eight cemeteries established under NCA's "Rural Initiative," this site supports the NCA's goal of ensuring that 95% of veterans have a VA national cemetery or VA-grant funded burial option within 75 miles of their homes. Currently, nearly 94% of veterans meet that standard. [Read more.](#)



Podcast Welcomes First Member of Congress: Co-hosts Rob Couture and Brittany Dymond Murray welcomed their first member of Congress and VFW Life member, Rep. Derrick Van Orden (WI-3), to the studio for the latest episode of #StillServing: The VFW Podcast, airing Sep. 26. Joined by Washington Office Executive Director Ryan Gallucci and National Legislative Director Kristina Keenan, the group had a candid and poignant discussion on veteran legislation, bipartisan collaboration and why veterans in communities are so important. This Friday, catch Episode 50, *Let Us Reason Together*, wherever you get your podcasts or watch it on [YouTube.](#)



MIA Update: The Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency announced eight identifications and two burial updates for service members who have been missing and unaccounted for from World War II and the Korean War.

Identifications:

- [World War II Army 1st Lt. Wilburn R. Saunders Jr.](#)
- [World War II Army Air Forces Sgt. Henry L. Younge](#)
- [World War II Army Air Forces Pfc. Bernard F. Sweet](#)
- [World War II Army Pfc. Charles B. Winters](#)
- [World War II Army Air Forces 2nd Lt. Edgar W. Nevois](#)
- [World War II Army Pvt. Condia Lynch Jr.](#)
- [World War II Marine Corps Reserve Pfc. Charles E. Wallace](#)
- [Korean War Army Pfc. William T. Farrell](#)

Updates:

- [World War II Army Air Forces 2nd Lt. Blaine B. Wilcox, Iowa](#)
- [World War II Navy Reserve Ensign Eugene E. Mandenberg, Michigan](#)

[View past editions of the VFW Action Corps Weekly](#)

[View VFW-supported bills in the 119th Congress](#)

[Sign up as a veterans' advocate](#)