ACTION CORPS WEEKLY

VFW VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS.

November 16, 2026



VFW Advocates Take the Fight to Capitol Hill: Advocates from the VFW, its Auxiliary and partner veteran organizations visited all 435 House offices and 94 Senate offices on Nov. 9-10 during the Honor the Contract mobilization. Supporters nationwide reinforced their message by calling and emailing Congress and signing the VFW's petition. As of Nov. 12, the campaign had resulted in 139,363 messages and calls to Congress and 10,966 petition signatures. Advocates urged Congress to reject the Take Care of America's Veterans Act (TCAVA) because Section 108 would cut disability compensation for certain future veterans. They also called on Congress to pass the standalone CLEAN Major Richard Star Act so combat-injured, medically retired veterans can receive the full benefits they earned. View the Honor the Contract mobilization results.

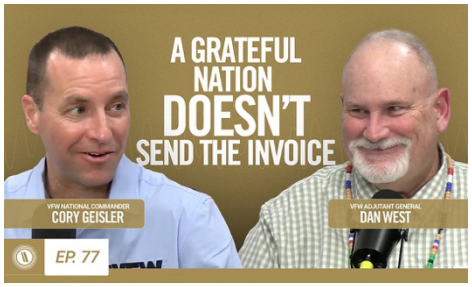


Major Richard Star Act Passes House: The House has passed the standalone, clean H.R. 2102, Major Richard Star Act, by an overwhelming bipartisan vote of 392-18, marking a major victory in the fight to end the unjust offset of military retirement pay and VA disability compensation for combat-injured veterans. This success is a direct result of the tireless advocacy of VFW and Auxiliary members who traveled to Washington, D.C., last week to meet with lawmakers along with thousands of VFW advocates across the country who have been consistently urging Congress to pass this critical legislation. This bill would allow combat-injured veterans who were medically retired with fewer than 20 years of service to receive their full military retirement pay and VA disability compensation without an offset. The collective advocacy effort

pushed the bill across the finish line in the House. Although this passage is a significant milestone, the work is not finished. The VFW will now turn attention to the Senate to ensure this long-overdue legislation becomes law. Read more.

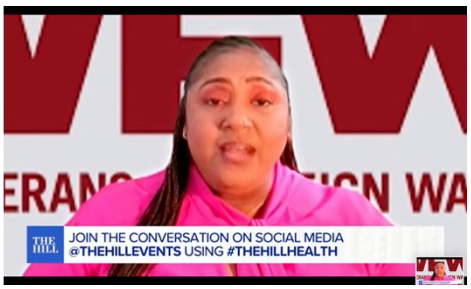


House Passes Veterans Benefit Cuts on Veterans Day: The House passed H.R. 9237, Take Care of America's Veterans Act (TCAVA), by voice vote on Nov. 11, preventing constituents from knowing how their representatives voted. Section 108 of the bill would reduce disability compensation for certain future veterans, setting a dangerous precedent for cutting earned benefits. The vote occurred while House Committee on Veterans' Affairs Ranking Member Mark Takano was reportedly away from the floor discussing potential changes to the bill. VFW National Commander Cory Geisler condemned the procedural action as "cowardly and dishonorable," particularly on Veterans Day. Despite strong opposition from VFW advocates across the country, House leadership advanced the legislation without a recorded vote. The VFW will continue fighting to protect veterans' earned benefits as this legislation moves to the Senate. Read the VFW's statement.



All Hands on Deck for Latest Podcast: In his first ever appearance, VFW Adjutant General Dan West joined VFW National Commander Cory Geisler and Washington Office Executive Director Ryan Gallucci for a frank discussion with hosts Rob Couture and Brittany Murray on Capitol Hill. Recorded during the VFW's Honor the Contract mobilization and before the U.S. House of Representatives voted on the Take Care of America's Veterans Act (TCAVA) and standalone Major Richard Star Act on Nov. 11 and 12, respectively, VFW leaders reflected on the choice before Congress and what's at stake if TCAVA becomes law. Also covered was a breakdown of the differences between the standalone, unamended Major Richard Star Act and the altered version found within TCAVA. Listen to episode 77, "A Grateful Nation Doesn't Send the Invoice," on

your favorite podcast platform or watch it on YouTube.



Advancing Dental Care for Veterans: The VFW participated in a virtual panel discussion hosted by The Hill Talks focused on the advancement of dental care for veterans. VFW National Legislative Service Associate Director Meggan Coleman emphasized the importance of all veterans receiving dental care because it is an essential part of health care. “Improving veterans' oral health requires more than expanding the number of dental appointments,” said Coleman. “It requires ensuring that veterans can obtain preventive, restorative and specialty dental services before treatable conditions become serious health problems.” Watch the panel discussion, which begins at the 00:54 mark.

National Veterans Service Conducts Virtual Claims Training: The VFW’s National Veterans Service (NVS) conducted a weeklong virtual training program for its Pre-Discharge claims representatives stationed across the United States and South Korea. The training focused on strengthening representatives’ knowledge of VA benefits, claims procedures and best practices to better assist transitioning service members through the Benefits Delivery at Discharge program. The training also featured presentations and discussions with the VFW’s National Legislative Service, Public Affairs and Strategic Outreach team and NVS leadership, providing representatives with a broader understanding of the VFW. The virtual format allowed representatives from across the program to participate while maintaining services to transitioning military personnel at their respective locations. Learn more about the VFW Pre-Discharge program.



VFW Takes Part in Veterans Day Events: On Veterans Day, VFW Washington Office staff and national leaders from the VFW and its Auxiliary took part in events in and around Washington D.C., to honor those who have raised their hands in defense of our nation. Ceremonies took place at Arlington National Cemetery, the Korean War Veterans Memorial, the Vietnam Veterans Memorial and on the steps of the Lincoln Memorial at The National Military Monument™ by USAA.



MIA Update: The Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency announced 10 identifications for service members who have been missing and unaccounted for from World War II and the Korean War.

Identifications:
-- World War II Army Air Forces Cpl. Joe W. Bostedt
-- World War II Army Air Forces Pvt. James H. Darr
-- World War II Army Air Forces Pvt. Jess H. Motter
-- World War II Army Pfc. Lewis R. Phillips
-- World War II Army Sgt. Paul F. Simonson
-- World War II Army Capt. Donald R. Snoke
-- Korean War Army Sgt. 1st Class Joseph S. Buzyniski
-- Korean War Army Cpl. Edward M. Carico
-- Korean War Army Cpl. Billy Jerkins
-- Korean War Army Sgt. I. Lindley Littleton

View past editions of the VFW Action Corps Weekly

View VFW-supported bills in the 119th Congress

Sign up as a veterans' advocate