## 112th Congress: Veteran Related Bills

The following is for your information and distribution to your members.

John A Miterko Veterans Advocate

Of the 2815 House and 1509 Senate bills introduced in the 112th Congress as of 12 JUL, 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/d111/sponlst.html. To review a numerical list of all bills introduced refer to http://thomas.loc.gov/bss/111search.html.

## Senate Bill Summary & Status

Search Results - Text searched:

H.R.1407: Veterans' Compensation Cost-of-Living Adjustment Act of 2011 Sponsor: Rep Runyan, Jon [NJ-3] (introduced 4/6/2011) Cosponsors (8)

Committees: House Veterans' Affairs; Senate Veterans' Affairs House Reports: 112-82

Latest Major Action: 5/24/2011 Referred to Senate committee.

Status: Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

H.R.1484: Veterans Appeals Improvement Act of 2011

Sponsor: Rep Filner, Bob [CA-51] (introduced 4/12/2011) Cosponsors (1)

Committees: House Veterans' Affairs; Senate Veterans' Affairs House Reports: 112-83

Latest Major Action: 6/6/2011 Referred to Senate committee.

Status: Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

H.R.1657: To amend title 38, United States Code, to revise the enforcement penalties for misrepresentation of a business concern as a small business concern owned and controlled by veterans or as a small business concern owned and controlled by service-disabled veterans.

Sponsor: Rep Stutzman, Marlin A. [IN-3] (introduced 4/15/2011) Cosponsors (None)

Committees: House Veterans' Affairs; Senate Veterans' Affairs House Reports: 112-85

Latest Major Action: 5/24/2011 Referred to Senate committee.

Status: Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

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 (45)

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

http://capwiz.com/naus/issues/alert/?alertid=25851506

S.277: Caring for Camp Lejeune Veterans Act of 2011

Sponsor: Sen Burr, Richard [NC] (introduced 2/3/2011) Cosponsors (8)

Committees: Senate Veterans' Affairs

Latest Major Action: 6/29/2011 Senate committee/subcommittee actions.

Status: Committee on Veterans' Affairs. Ordered to be reported without amendment favorably.

S.396: Meeting the Inpatient Health Care Needs of Far South Texas Veterans Act of 2011

Sponsor: Sen Cornyn, John [TX] (introduced 2/17/2011) Cosponsors (1)

Committees: Senate Veterans' Affairs

Latest Major Action: 6/8/2011 Senate committee/subcommittee actions. Status: Committee on

Veterans' Affairs. Hearings held.

S.411: Helping Our Homeless Veterans Act of 2011

Sponsor: Sen Klobuchar, Amy [MN] (introduced 2/17/2011) Cosponsors (18)

Committees: Senate Veterans' Affairs

Latest Major Action: 6/8/2011 Senate committee/subcommittee actions. Status: Committee on

Veterans' Affairs. Hearings held.

S.423: 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: 6/8/2011 Senate committee/subcommittee actions. Status: Committee on

Veterans' Affairs. Hearings held.

S.536: 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 (1)

Committees: Senate Veterans' Affairs

Latest Major Action: 6/8/2011 Senate committee/subcommittee actions.

Status: Committee on Veterans' Affairs. Hearings held.

S.666: Veterans Traumatic Brain Injury Care Improvement Act of 2011

Sponsor: Sen Baucus, Max [MT] (introduced 3/29/2011) Cosponsors (4) Latest Major Action: 6/8/2011 Senate committee/subcommittee actions.

Status: Committee on Veterans' Affairs. Hearings held.

S.696: A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to treat Vet Centers as Department of Veterans Affairs facilities for purposes of payments or allowances for beneficiary travel to Department facilities, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: Sen Tester, Jon [MT] (introduced 3/31/2011) Cosponsors (5)

Committees: Senate Veterans' Affairs

Latest Major Action: 6/8/2011 Senate committee/subcommittee actions. Status: Committee on

Veterans' Affairs. Hearings held.

S.698: A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to codify the prohibition against the reservation of gravesites at Arlington National Cemetery, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: Sen Warner, Mark R. [VA] (introduced 3/31/2011) Cosponsors (None)

Committees: Senate Veterans' Affairs

Latest Major Action: 6/8/2011 Senate committee/subcommittee actions.

Status: Committee on Veterans' Affairs. Hearings held.

S.745: A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to protect certain veterans who would otherwise be subject to a reduction in educational assistance benefits, and for other purposes.

Committees: Senate Veterans' Affairs

Latest Major Action: 6/29/2011 Senate committee/subcommittee actions.

Status: Committee on Veterans' Affairs. Ordered to be reported without amendment favorably.

S.780 : Veterans Pensions Protection Act of 2011

Sponsor: Sen Tester, Jon [MT] (introduced 4/8/2011) Cosponsors (1)

Committees: Senate Veterans' Affairs

Latest Major Action: 6/8/2011 Senate committee/subcommittee actions.

Status: Committee on Veterans' Affairs. Hearings held.

S.815: Sanctity of Eternal Rest for Veterans Act of 2011

Sponsor: Sen Snowe, Olympia J. [ME] (introduced 4/13/2011) Cosponsors (34)

Committees: Senate Veterans' Affairs

Latest Major Action: 6/8/2011 Senate committee/subcommittee actions.

Status: Committee on Veterans' Affairs. Hearings held.

S.873: A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to provide benefits for children with spina bifida of veterans exposed to herbicides while serving in the Armed Forces during the Vietnam era outside Vietnam, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: Sen Akaka, Daniel K. [HI] (introduced 5/3/2011) Cosponsors (None)

Committees: Senate Veterans' Affairs

Latest Major Action: 6/8/2011 Senate committee/subcommittee actions. Status: Committee on

Veterans' Affairs. Hearings held.

S.874: A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to modify the provision of compensation and pension to surviving spouses of veterans in the months of the deaths of the veterans, to improve housing loan benefits for veterans, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: Sen Akaka, Daniel K. [HI] (introduced 5/3/2011) Cosponsors (None)

Committees: Senate Veterans' Affairs

Latest Major Action: 6/8/2011 Senate committee/subcommittee actions.

Status: Committee on Veterans' Affairs. Hearings held.

S.894: Veterans' Compensation Cost-of-Living Adjustment Act of 2011 Sponsor: Sen Murray, Patty [WA] (introduced 5/5/2011) Cosponsors (14)

Committees: Senate Veterans' Affairs actions.

Status: Committee on Veterans' Affairs. Ordered to be reported without amendment favorably.

S.957: Veterans' Traumatic Brain Injury Rehabilitative Services' Improvements Act of 2011

Sponsor: Sen Boozman, John [AR] (introduced 5/11/2011) Cosponsors (2)

Committees: Senate Veterans' Affairs actions.

Status: Committee on Veterans' Affairs. Hearings held.

S.1017: Disabled Veteran Caregiver Housing Assistance Act of 2011

Sponsor: Sen Sanders, Bernard [VT] (introduced 5/17/2011) Cosponsors (None)

Committees: Senate Veterans' Affairs

Latest Major Action: 6/8/2011 Senate committee/subcommittee actions.

Status: Committee on Veterans' Affairs. Hearings held.

S.1089: Veterans Health Care Improvement Act of 2011

Sponsor: Sen McConnell, Mitch [KY] (introduced 5/26/2011) Cosponsors (None)

Committees: Senate Veterans' Affairs

Latest Major Action: 6/8/2011 Senate committee/subcommittee actions.

Status: Committee on Veterans' Affairs. Hearings held.

S.1124: Veterans Telemedicine Act of 2011

Sponsor: Sen Conrad, Kent [ND] (introduced 5/26/2011) Cosponsors (None)

Committees: Senate Veterans' Affairs

Latest Major Action: 6/8/2011 Senate committee/subcommittee actions.

Status: Committee on Veterans' Affairs. Hearings held.

S.1148: Veterans Programs Improvement Act of 2011

Sponsor: Sen Murray, Patty [WA] (introduced 6/6/2011) Cosponsors (None)

Committees: Senate Veterans' Affairs

Latest Major Action: 6/8/2011 Senate committee/subcommittee actions.

Status: Committee on Veterans' Affairs. Hearings held.

S.1264: Veteran Voting Support Act of 2011

Sponsor: Sen Feinstein, Dianne [CA] (introduced 6/23/2011) Cosponsors (4)

Committees: Senate Veterans' Affairs

Latest Major Action: 6/23/2011 Referred to Senate committee.

Status: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

S.RES.71: An original resolution authorizing expenditures by the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

Sponsor: Sen Murray, Patty [WA] (introduced 2/17/2011) Cosponsors (None)

Committees: Senate Veterans' Affairs; Senate Rules and Administration

Latest Major Action: 2/17/2011 Referred to Senate committee. Status: Referred to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

## House Bill Summary & Status

Search Results - Text searched:

H.R.26: Veterans Mental Health Screening and Assessment Act

Sponsor: Rep Speier, Jackie [CA-12] (introduced 1/5/2011) Cosponsors (1)

Committees: House Armed Services; House Veterans' Affairs Latest Major Action: 2/18/2011 Referred to House subcommittee.

Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on Health.

H.R.120: Disabled Veterans' Surviving Spouses Home Loans Act

Sponsor: Rep Foxx, Virginia [NC-5] (introduced 1/5/2011) Cosponsors (10)

Committees: House Veterans' Affairs

Latest Major Action: 2/18/2011 Referred to House subcommittee. Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on Economic Opportunity.

H.R.159: TBI Treatment AcT

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

Committees: House Armed Services; House Veterans' Affairs Latest Major Action: 2/18/2011 Referred to House subcommittee.

Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on Disability Assistance and Memorial Affairs.

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 (146)

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 http://capwiz.com/fra/issues/alert/?alertid=21755506

H.R.186: 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 (19) Committees: House Armed Services: House Budget: House Veterans' Affairs

Latest Major Action: 2/18/2011 Referred to House subcommittee.

Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on Disability Assistance and Memorial Affairs.

H.R.198: Veterans Dog Training Therapy Act

Sponsor: Rep Grimm, Michael G. [NY-13] (introduced 1/6/2011) Cosponsors (90)

Committees: House Veterans' Affairs

Latest Major Action: 2/18/2011 Referred to House subcommittee.

Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on Health.

H.R.240: 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 (2)

Committees: House Veterans' Affairs

Latest Major Action: 2/18/2011 Referred to House subcommittee. Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on Economic Opportunity.

H.R.303: Retired Pay Restoration Act

Sponsor: Rep Bilirakis, Gus M. [FL-9] (introduced 1/18/2011) Cosponsors (65)

Committees: House Armed Services; House Veterans' Affairs Latest Major Action: 2/25/2011 Referred to House subcommittee.

Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on Disability Assistance and Memorial Affairs.

H.R.333: Disabled Veterans Tax Termination Act

Sponsor: Rep Bishop, Sanford D., Jr. [GA-2] (introduced 1/19/2011) Cosponsors (139)

Committees: House Armed Services; House Veterans' Affairs Latest Major Action: 2/25/2011 Referred to House subcommittee.

Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on Disability Assistance and Memorial Affairs.

H.R.396: TBI Treatment Act

Sponsor: Rep Sessions, Pete [TX-32] (introduced 1/24/2011) Cosponsors (14)

Committees: House Armed Services; House Veterans' Affairs Latest Major Action: 2/25/2011 Referred to House subcommittee.

Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on Health.

H.R.806: End Veteran Homelessness Act of 2011

Sponsor: Rep Filner, Bob [CA-51] (introduced 2/18/2011) Cosponsors (3)

Committees: House Veterans' Affairs

Latest Major Action: 3/15/2011 Referred to House subcommittee.

Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on Health.

H.R.812: Agent Orange Equity Act of 2011

Sponsor: Rep Filner, Bob [CA-51] (introduced 2/18/2011) Cosponsors (26)

Committees: House Veterans' Affairs

Latest Major Action: 3/15/2011 Referred to House subcommittee.

Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on Disability Assistance and Memorial Affairs.

H.R.813: 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 (2)

Committees: House Veterans' Affairs

Latest Major Action: 3/15/2011 Referred to House subcommittee.

Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on Disability Assistance and Memorial Affairs.

H.R.837: Meeting the Inpatient Health Care Needs of Far South Texas Veterans Act of 2011

Sponsor: Rep Hinojosa, Ruben [TX-15] (introduced 2/28/2011) Cosponsors (2)

Committees: House Veterans' Affairs

Latest Major Action: 3/15/2011 Referred to House subcommittee.

Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on Health.

H.R.923: Veterans Pensions Protection Act of 2011

Sponsor: Rep Hastings, Alcee L. [FL-23] (introduced 3/3/2011) Cosponsors (58)

Committees: House Veterans' Affairs

Latest Major Action: 4/1/2011 Referred to House subcommittee.

Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on Disability Assistance and Memorial Affairs.

H.R.930: 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 (17)

Committees: House Veterans' Affairs

Latest Major Action: 4/1/2011 Referred to House subcommittee.

Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on Disability Assistance and Memorial Affairs.

H.R.1025: 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 (49)

Committees: House Veterans' Affairs

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

H.R.1133: Helping Our Homeless Veterans Act of 2011

Sponsor: Rep Filner, Bob [CA-51] (introduced 3/16/2011) Cosponsors (1)

Committees: House Veterans' Affairs; House Financial Services Latest Major Action: 4/4/2011 Referred to House subcommittee.

Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on Insurance, Housing and Community Opportunity.

H.R.1154: Veterans Equal Treatment for Service Dogs Act

Sponsor: Rep Carter, John R. [TX-31] (introduced 3/17/2011) Cosponsors (64)

Committees: House Veterans' Affairs

Latest Major Action: 4/1/2011 Referred to House subcommittee.

Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on Health.

H.R.1260 : Support for Survivors Act

Sponsor: Rep Braley, Bruce L. [IA-1] (introduced 3/30/2011) Cosponsors (4)

Committees: House Armed Services; House Veterans' Affairs Latest Major Action: 5/18/2011 Referred to House subcommittee. Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on Military Personnel.

H.R.1288: World War II Merchant Mariner Service Act

Sponsor: Rep Butterfield, G. K. [NC-1] (introduced 3/31/2011) Cosponsors (63)

Committees: House Veterans' Affairs

Latest Major Action: 4/15/2011 Referred to House subcommittee.

Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on Disability Assistance and Memorial Affairs

H.R.1407: Veterans' Compensation Cost-of-Living Adjustment Act of 2011 Sponsor: Rep Runyan, Jon [NJ-3] (introduced 4/6/2011) Cosponsors (8)

Committees: House Veterans' Affairs; Senate Veterans' Affairs House Reports: 112-82

Latest Major Action: 5/24/2011 Referred to Senate committee.

Status: Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

H.R.1441: To amend title 38, United States Code, to codify the prohibition against the reservation of

gravesites at Arlington National Cemetery, and for other purposes. Sponsor: Rep Runyan, Jon [NJ-3] (introduced 4/8/2011) Cosponsors (3)

Committees: House Veterans' Affairs; House Armed Services Latest Major Action: 5/18/2011 Referred to House subcommittee. Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on Military Personnel.

H.R.1591: Sanctity of Eternal Rest for Veterans Act of 2011

Sponsor: Rep Bass, Charles F. [NH-2] (introduced 4/15/2011) Cosponsors (30) Committees: House Judiciary; House Veterans' Affairs; House Armed Services

Latest Major Action: 5/18/2011 Referred to House subcommittee. Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on Military Personnel.

H.R.1811: National Guard Employment Protection Act of 2011

Sponsor: Rep Coffman, Mike [CO-6] (introduced 5/10/2011) Cosponsors (9)

Committees: House Veterans' Affairs

Latest Major Action: 5/25/2011 Referred to House subcommittee. Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on Economic Opportunity.

H.R.1832 : Service members' Telemedicine and E-Health Portability Act of 2011

Sponsor: Rep Thompson, Glenn [PA-5] (introduced 5/11/2011) Cosponsors (19)

Committees: House Armed Services; House Veterans' Affairs Latest Major Action: 5/25/2011 Referred to House subcommittee.

Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on Health.

H.R.1910: To extend for one year the authority of certain members of the Armed Forces and veterans

to transfer unused Post-9/11 Educational Assistance benefits to family members. Sponsor: Rep Bartlett, Roscoe G. [MD-6] (introduced 5/13/2011) Cosponsors (13)

Committees: House Veterans' Affairs

Latest Major Action: 5/27/2011 Referred to House subcommittee. Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on Economic Opportunity.

H.R.1941: Hiring Heroes Act of 2011

Sponsor: Rep Bishop, Sanford D., Jr. [GA-2] (introduced 5/23/2011) Cosponsors (59)

Committees: House Veterans' Affairs; House Armed Services; House Oversight and Government Reform

Latest Major Action: 6/24/2011 Referred to House subcommittee. Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on Economic Opportunity.

H.R.1979: To amend title 10, United States Code, to expand eligibility for concurrent receipt of military retired pay and veterans' disability compensation to include additional chapter 61 disability retirees, to coordinate eligibility for combat-related special compensation and concurrent receipt, to eliminate the reduction of SBP survivor annuities by dependency and indemnity compensation, and to enhance the ability of members of the reserve components who serve on active duty or perform active service to receive credit for such service in determining eligibility for early receipt of non-regular service retired pay.

Sponsor: Rep Andrews, Robert E. [NJ-1] (introduced 5/25/2011) Cosponsors (None)

Committees: House Armed Services; House Veterans' Affairs Latest Major Action: 6/24/2011 Referred to House subcommittee. Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on Military Personnel.

H.R.2318: Medal of Honor Stipend Increase Act

Sponsor: Rep Sessions, Pete [TX-32] (introduced 6/23/2011) Cosponsors (19)

Committees: House Veterans' Affairs

Latest Major Action: 7/8/2011 Referred to House subcommittee.

Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on Disability Assistance and Memorial Affairs.

H.R.2355: Hallowed Grounds Act

Sponsor: Rep Hartzler, Vicky [MO-4] (introduced 6/24/2011) Cosponsors (42)

Committees: House Veterans' Affairs; House Armed Services Latest Major Action: 7/8/2011 Referred to House subcommittee.

Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on Disability Assistance and Memorial Affairs.

H.R.2377: RAPID Claims Act

Sponsor: Rep Donnelly, Joe [IN-2] (introduced 6/24/2011) Cosponsors (7)

Committees: House Veterans' Affairs

Latest Major Action: 7/15/2011 Referred to House subcommittee.

Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on Disability Assistance and Memorial Affairs.

**H.R.2559**: To amend title 38, United States Code, to make certain improvements in the laws administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs relating to homeless veterans, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: Rep Deutch, Theodore E. [FL-19] (introduced 7/15/2011) Cosponsors (20)

Committees: House Veterans' Affairs

Latest Major Action: 7/15/2011 Referred to House committee. Status: Referred to the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs.