

September 20, 2021



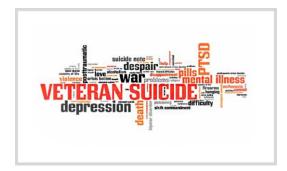
Congress is Leaving Veterans Behind: Congress is voting now on the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) for Fiscal Year 2022. Amendments have been added to the NDAA for H.R. 1115 / S. 535, the Global War on Terrorism Memorial Location Act, and H.R. 1282 / S. 344, the Major Richard Star Act. Post-9/11 veterans deserve to be honored with a GWOT memorial on the National Mall and Purple Heart recipients deserve to receive all the benefits they earned. Now is the time to move these two important pieces of legislation forward. Contact your members of Congress TODAY and demand they pass this crucial legislation. TAKE ACTION!



VA Extends Presumptive Period for Gulf War Illness Disability Claims: VA has extended the time limit for veterans of the Persian Gulf War to make disability claims for presumptive conditions associated with Gulf War Illness. Since military operations in Southwest Asia continue and there is scientific uncertainty as to the causes and onset time of symptoms, the presumptive period has been extended from Dec. 31, 2021, to Dec. 31, 2026. Public comments on this amendment by VA may be submitted to the Federal Register through Oct. 14, 2021.



VFW's "Sport Clips Help A Hero Scholarship"
Now Open: Scholarship applications for the spring
2022 semester are being accepted now through Nov.
15. Veterans can face many challenges while
furthering their education, and even more so during
the COVID-19 pandemic. Let Sport Clips and the
VFW help you succeed in reaching your educational
goals. This scholarship can help ease the financial
burden by providing up to \$5,000 of assistance per



semester, per family, for service members and veterans in the rank of E-5 and below. Apply now.

Online Suicide Prevention Training: VA has collaborated with PsychArmor Institute to provide the public with a 25-minute online training course in suicide prevention awareness. The free training video, S.A.V.E. (Signs, Ask, Validate, Encourage and Expedite), covers suicide as a public health issue, signs of suicide risk, and what actions can be taken. Read more. For any veteran in crisis, you are not alone. The Veterans Crisis Line is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week by phone (1.800.273.8255, press 1), text (838255), or online chat by visiting VeteransCrisisLine.net.



VFW Celebrates National Hispanic Heritage
Month: The VFW is proud to celebrate our nation's service members and veterans of Hispanic heritage

during National Hispanic Heritage Month from Sept. 15 - Oct. 15. More than 230,000 Hispanic and Latino people serve in the armed forces. Since the Revolutionary War, Hispanic Americans and Latin American immigrants have served in large numbers in every conflict up to present day. Among them, 61 were awarded the Medal of Honor. The VFW salutes all service members, veterans, comrades, and their families of Hispanic heritage for their indelible contributions to our freedom and our way of life.



Gold Star Families Remembrance Week: In 2018, Congress designated Sept. 23 - Sept. 29 as Gold Star Families Remembrance Week to honor and recognize the sacrifices made by the families of members of the armed forces who made the ultimate sacrifice. This year, Gold Star Mother's and Family Remembrance Day will be observed on Sept. 26. All Americans are encouraged to performs acts of good will and celebrate the families of those who gave their lives for our freedom.



MIA Update: The Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency has not announced any new identifications or burial updates this past week.

Click here to view this week's edition.

Click here for past editions of the VFW Action Corps Weekly.

Click here to sign up new veterans' advocates.

As always, we want to hear your advocacy stories. To share your stories or photos with us, simply email them directly to vfwac@vfw.org.