

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON **VETERANS' AFFAIRS**

CHAIRMAN MIKE BOST

DELIVERING FOR VETERANS



119TH CONGRESS | 2026 PLAYBOOK

House Republicans Roadmap for America's Veterans |
119th Congress, First Session Wrap Up

- **THE TOP LINE:** House Republicans are creating opportunity every day for America's veterans and their families so that they can achieve the American Dream after they leave the military.
- House Republicans are focused on cutting out the bureaucracy *and* investing in effective VA programs to get veterans their healthcare, benefits, and services faster. The Trump administration shares this commitment.
- House Republicans are working hard to do our part to further President Trump's Veteran First agenda.
- **SIGNED INTO LAW:** H.R. 1815 – **The VA Home Loan Program Reform Act** – the largest veteran homeowner foreclosure safety net program in history.
- **SIGNED INTO LAW:** H.R. 1 – **The Working Families Tax Cut** – the largest middle-class tax cut to benefit families to date.
- **SIGNED INTO LAW:** S. 201 – **The ACES Act** – will provide needed medical advancements for veteran aviators **to ensure our warfighters have the benefits they need after they leave the military.**
- Working alongside the Trump administration to **expand and protect veterans' ACCESS to healthcare – no matter where they live.**
- **INTRODUCED:** H.R. 6047 – **The Sharri Briley and Eric Edmundson Veterans Benefits Expansion Act** – which would increase benefits for over 7,000 catastrophically disabled veterans and 500,000 veterans' survivors for the first time in 20 years.
- **Ended the Biden-era lackluster accountability** that directly impacted the delivery of care and benefits to veterans.
- **INTRODUCED:** 12 bills as part of Chairman Bost's VA reauthorization strategy to **bring accountability and needed reforms to VA healthcare, education, and benefits to better serve veterans.**
- **SIGNED INTO LAW:** H.R. 695 – **The Medal of Honor Act** – increases the special monthly pension for Medal of Honor recipients and their surviving families.
- Fought to **continue to protect veterans with fiduciaries due process and Second Amendment rights.**
- **SIGNED INTO LAW:** H.R. 983 – **The Montgomery GI Selected Reserves Tuition Fairness Act** – will bring down in-state tuition costs for veterans who want to attend college in-state.

- **Advanced landmark improvements to the TAP program for active-duty servicemembers and their families** through the FY2026 NDAA.
- Led policies to **advance and cut through the red tape and paperwork burden for veterans applying for VA disability compensation benefits.**
- Fighting to expand veterans' access to lifesaving mental health care through VA's Community Care Network.
- Held 49 hearings on healthcare, accountability, education benefits, mental health, disability benefits, innovation, AI, and more.

VA Fast Facts

- The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) is the second largest department in the federal government with a total budget exceeding \$367 billion in fiscal year 2025.
- VA consists of three separate Administrations – the Veterans Health Administration (VHA), the Veterans Benefits Administration (VBA), and the National Cemetery Administration (NCA).
- There are more than 450,000 VA employees.
- The VA healthcare system is the largest integrated health care system in the country, providing care at 1,298 health care facilities, including 171 medical centers and over 1,000 outpatient clinics of varying complexity, 134 VA community living centers (nursing homes), 300 Vet Centers, and numerous other supported sites of care.
- There are 154 national veterans' cemeteries in 42 states and Puerto Rico, as well as 34 soldier's lots and monument sites maintained by NCA. The American Battle Monuments Commission (ABMC) maintains 26 overseas American military cemeteries and 32 memorials.
- There are approximately 19 million veterans in the United States, including approximately 2 million women veterans.
- Approximately 9 million veterans are enrolled in the VA healthcare system and approximately 7 million veterans actively use some aspect of the VA healthcare system.
- VA provides disability compensation benefits to more than 5.2 million veterans.
- VA provides pension benefits to over 330,000 veterans and their survivors.
- VA provides veteran readiness and employment benefits to more than 125,000 veterans.
- VA provides educational benefits to almost 876,000 veterans, dependents, and other beneficiaries.

House Republicans Roadmap for America's Veterans | 119th Congress Second Session Agenda

- **THE TOP LINE:** House Republicans are fighting to create opportunity every day for America's veterans and their families so that they can achieve the American Dream after they leave the military.

Making Life Affordable for Veterans and their Families

- **H.R. 6047 – Briley-Edmundson Veterans Benefits Expansion Bill**
 - The VA benefits expansions in the Sharri Briley and Eric Edmunsdon Benefits Expansions Act of 2025 would deliver vital support to the **over 520,000 catastrophically injured veterans, dependents, and their survivors, many of whom have not seen their benefits properly expanded in decades.**
 - Survivors that would be impacted by these benefit expansions have not seen a non-inflation increase since 1993.
 - Catastrophically injured, service-connected disabled veterans with a traumatic brain injury or other severe disabilities that require regular, round the clock, in-home medical care often have very costly expenses, and this bill would help veteran families with those costs that veterans need to live comfortably.
- The increases proposed in this bill would:
 - Increase the monthly support payment (DIC) that veteran survivors receive from VA.
 - Increase the benefits rate for catastrophically service-connected disabled veterans by \$10,000 annually.
- **Extend G.I. Bill benefits for job training programs in emerging tech**
 - Would grant veterans and transitioning servicemembers more opportunities to access high-paying careers.
- **Reform the VA Home Loan program**
- **Strict oversight and reorganization of the job training programs VA offers to expand economic opportunities**

Big Initiatives

- Begin NDAA style VA reauthorization (first time in decades).
- Review of Trump administration's proposed changes to VA's Veterans Health Administration structure.
- VA Electronic Health Record deployment oversight.
- Send H.R. 6047 to President Trump's desk.

WIN THE MESSAGE: House Republicans VA Reauthorization Initiative

Restoring VA's Core Mission for Veterans and their Families

- **THE TOP LINE:** House Republicans are leading a historic reauthorization initiative to update expired authorities, strengthen oversight, and modernize the delivery of healthcare, benefits, research, and infrastructure for veterans. This comprehensive approach has one single focus in mind: delivering better outcomes for veterans. The days of accepting status quo are over. Veterans have earned better.
- Too many VA programs are receiving a blank check from Congress and have gone unauthorized for decades – House Republicans – alongside President Trump – are bringing accountability back to VA.

HEALTH CARE

- Our veterans deserve timely access to the health care they need, no matter where they live or which VA facility they visit – and without a pile of paperwork.
- **House Republicans bills to improve the delivery of care would:**
 - Bring VA's National Drug Formulary in line with healthcare industry standards.
 - Reform VA's leasing and construction process for new VA facilities to streamline new projects faster.
 - Modernize VA's healthcare research processes to better serve patients.
 - Reform VA's contracting and procurement processes.
- **WHY IT MATTERS:** For too long, veterans and taxpayers alike haven't seen the full return on investment in VA care and infrastructure. **House Republicans are advancing these reforms to deliver tangible results to veterans through a more transparent, accountable approach to how VA builds, buys, researches, and delivers quality care.**

GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY

- **House Republicans bills to end the Biden-era and bring back accountability at VA would:**
 - Establish VA's VISNs in statute for the first time and clearly define their purpose as regional integrated healthcare systems — not middle management entities. VA's VISNs have not been updated since the mid-1990s.
 - Reform VA's Senior Executive Service (SES) employee pay structure to prevent waste and fraud.
 - Bring accountability and streamline VA's federal advisory committees.
 - Restructure VA's political and executive appointment framework.
- **WHY IT MATTERS:** For too long, too many VA programs have gone unchecked and too many employees who don't have VA's core mission of serving veterans well in mind have flown under the radar. **During the Biden administration we uncovered real problems that were directly impacting the delivery of care and services – these bills would right the ship at VA.**

EDUCATION AND WORKFORCE BENEFITS REFORM

- **House Republicans bills to end the Biden-era, modernize benefits, and bring back accountability at VA would:**
 - Create needed accountability and reporting measures within VA's Veteran Readiness and Employment (VR&E) program to better serve disabled veterans.
 - Establish a modern, centralized VA acquisition enterprise with consistent cost evaluation.
 - Create a new Veterans Economic Opportunity and Transition Administration within the Veterans Benefits Administration specifically focused on improving the transition from active-duty to veteran.
 - Move the DOL-VETS program to VA to centralize workforce benefits delivery with the experts at VA.
- **WHY IT MATTERS:** Enhancing these multibillion-dollar VA benefits programs to make them better – and create lasting change – **would provide more economic opportunity for the veterans, transitioning active-duty servicemembers, and the veteran families they were created to serve.**

Resources to Connect with your Veteran Community

- **Host a veteran-specific tele-town hall in DC, town hall in your district, casework event, or roundtable event with local veteran service organizations (VSOs) in your district to assist with benefits.**
- **Visit your local VA facility** – committee staff are happy to support these visits if helpful.
- **Record a video message** on the latest veterans’ bill you voted for or cosponsored.
- **Sponsor** committee-driven veterans’ bill priorities.

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