

Veterans Plan

Honoring Their Service to Our Nation

America's veterans have put so much on the line to defend our great Nation and safeguard our freedoms. As the mother of a Marine, I understand the sacrifices that are made by our service members and their families each day. That's why one of my top priorities in Congress is to ensure every American servicemember and veteran is well-equipped and properly supported, whether they are serving actively or returning to civilian life.

Congress and the Departments of Defense and Veterans Affairs (VA) have an obligation to deliver for our military community. Programs for veterans must be transparent, effective, and affordable. Given the problems that have historically plagued the VA, including misspending, inconsistency in providing quality healthcare, and backlogs of claims, my focus is on making sure the VA is reformed to effectively meet its mission set and serve our veterans.

My Plan to Deliver for America's Veterans focuses on four core pillars: ensuring VA Transparency and Accountability, Expanding Access to Quality Healthcare, Supporting the Transition to Civilian Life, and Honoring the Sacrifice of Those Who Served. I encourage you to read more about each of these initiatives below and I look forward to your feedback.[\[NL1\]](#)

Ensuring VA Transparency and Accountability

- **Cosponsored H.R. 41, the VA Same-Day Scheduling Act of 2022:** This legislation will make significant strides in accountability at the VA to ensure our country's heroes are getting the highest quality of care in a timely manner. Veterans should expect the scheduling process for appointments to be completed upon their first call to the VA.
- **Cosponsored H.R. 1139, the GUARD VA Benefits Act:** This bill will ensure veterans' hard-earned benefits are protected from bad actors by imposing fines on individuals charging veterans unauthorized fees with respect to the claims made by our veterans. This form of business practice is terrible and must be ended immediately.

Expanding Access to Quality Healthcare

- **Cosponsored H.R. 1045, the Health Care Fairness for Military Families Act of 2023:** This legislation will improve VA healthcare benefits for dependents under the TRICARE Young Adult Program. This bipartisan bill amends Title 10 of U.S. Code to prevent the Secretary of Veteran Affairs from regulating premium prices for TRICARE program coverage, particularly premiums for dependents. The change will allow children

of veterans to stay on their parents' plan until the age of 26, just like any other health insurance plan.

- **Cosponsored H.R. 1282, the Major Richard Star Act:** This bill will expand the VA's capacity to assist veterans by allowing combat-disabled uniformed services retirees to receive veterans' disability compensation concurrently with retired pay or combat-related special compensation. It will ensure those who were injured while serving this country have the resources they need to live a healthy and fulfilling life.

Supporting the Transition to Civilian Life

- **Co-Lead H.R. 491, the Return Home to Housing Act:** This bipartisan legislation will increase the maximum rate of daily payments to grant recipients and authorized entities that provide transitional housing and services for homeless veterans across the country. Veterans will now also see their per diem rates adjusted accordingly in response to emergencies. This will expand the housing services available to homeless veterans, ensuring no veterans will be left on the street.
- **Cosponsored H.R. 2768, the Joseph P. Dwyer Peer Support Program Act:** This legislation will create a national program that connects veterans suffering from PTSD or a traumatic brain injury (TBI) with other veterans suffering under similar circumstances. Connecting veterans with their peers allows them to confide in someone they can trust in addition to trained VA civilian staff.[\[NL2\]](#) [\[NL3\]](#)

Honoring the Sacrifice of Those Who Served

- **Introduced H.R. 5318, the Remembering Our Local Heroes Act:** This bill will honor our fallen or disabled heroes by providing grants to local governments to support memorials to veterans of the United States Armed Forces, as well as law enforcement officers and firefighters. We cannot forget our history and the sacrifice of our local heroes; we owe it to their memory to erect these memorials or to keep these local landmarks maintained.[\[NL4\]](#)
- **Cosponsored H.R. 3149, the National Medal of Honor Highway bill:** This bipartisan legislation will designate United States Route 20 as the as the "National Medal of Honor Highway". We must never forget our service members decorated with the prestigious Medal of Honor who are recognized for their extraordinary efforts to defend our nation above the call of duty.
- **Cosponsored H.R. 841, the Sergeant Gary Beikirch Medal of Honor Act:** This bipartisan legislation allows Medal of Honor recipients' spouses to receive the Medal of Honor special pension simultaneously with traditional veterans' dependency and indemnity compensation. We must ensure we honor the families and the sacrifice of those who served our country bravely with distinction.

Your views are always important to me. Please write to me on my website or call my office at 202-225-3665 with feedback, questions, or concerns.