

Veteran Legislation as of 13 August 2010

Of the 6106 House and 3754 Senate pieces of legislation introduced in the 111th Congress to date, the following House bills are of interest to the non-active duty veteran community. Bill titles in green (if any) are new additions to this summary, titles in orange have either passed either the House or Senate and been passed to the other for consideration or been incorporated into another bill, and those highlighted in blue have become public law. A good indication on the likelihood 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>. The key to increasing cosponsorship is letting legislators know of their constituent's views on issues. Those bills that include a website in red are being pushed by various veterans groups for passage and by clicking on that website you can forward a preformatted message to your legislator requesting he/she support the bill.

Grassroots lobbying is perhaps the most effective way to let your Representative and Senators know your opinion. Whether you are calling into a local or Washington, D.C. office; sending a letter or email; signing a petition; or making a personal visit, Members of Congress are the most receptive and open to suggestions from their constituents. The key to increasing co-sponsorship on veteran related bills and subsequent passage into law is letting legislators know of veteran's feelings on issues. You can reach their Washington office via the Capital Operator direct at (866) 272-6622, (800) 828-0498, or (866) 340-9281 to express your views. Otherwise, you can locate on <http://thomas.loc.gov> your legislator's phone number, mailing

address, or email/website to communicate with a message or letter of your own making. Refer to http://www.thecapitol.net/FAQ/cong_schedule.html for dates that you can access your legislators on their home turf. [Source: RAO Bulletin Attachment 29 July 2010 ++]

H.R.32 : Veterans Outreach Improvement Act of 2009 to amend title 38, United States Code, to improve the outreach activities of the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes. Companion Bill S.315

Sponsor: Rep McIntyre, Mike [NC-7] (intro 1/6/2009) Cosponsors (41)
Committees: House Veterans' Affairs

Latest Major Action: 10/28/2009 House committee/subcommittee actions. Status: **Provisions of measure incorporated into H.R. 3949** .

H.R.82 : Veterans Outreach Improvement Act of 2009 to expand retroactive eligibility of the Army Combat Action Badge to include members of the Army who participated in combat during which they personally engaged, or were personally engaged by, the enemy at any time on or after December 7, 1941.

Sponsor: Rep Brown-Waite, Ginny [FL-5] (introduced 1/6/2009) Cosponsors (19)

Committees: House Armed Services

Latest Major Action: 1/30/2009 Referred to House subcommittee.

Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on Military Personnel.

H.R.161 : Social Security Beneficiary Tax Reduction Act to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to repeal the 1993 increase in taxes on Social Security benefits.

Sponsor: Rep Paul, Ron [TX-14] (introduced 1/6/2009)
Cosponsors (7)

Committees: House Ways and Means

Latest Major Action: 1/6/2009 Referred to House committee. Status: Referred to the House Committee on Ways and Means.

H.R.162 : Senior Citizens' Tax Elimination Act to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to repeal the inclusion in gross income of Social Security benefits.

Sponsor: Rep Paul, Ron [TX-14] (introduced 1/6/2009)
Cosponsors (4)

Committees: House Ways and Means

Latest Major Action: 1/6/2009 Referred to House committee. Status: Referred to the House Committee on Ways and Means.

H.R.333 : **Disabled Veterans Tax Termination Act** to amend title 10, United States Code, to permit retired members of the Armed Forces who have a service-connected disability rated less than 50 percent to receive concurrent payment of both retired pay and veterans' disability compensation, to eliminate the phase-in period for concurrent receipt, to extend eligibility for concurrent receipt to chapter 61 disability retirees with less than 20 years of service, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: Rep Marshall, Jim [GA-8] (introduced 1/8/2009)

Cosponsors (163) Committees: House Armed Services; House Veterans' Affairs

Latest Major Action: 2/6/2009 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=12406456&queueid=\[capwiz:queue_id\]](http://capwiz.com/usdr/issues/alert/?alertid=12406456&queueid=[capwiz:queue_id]) and <http://capwiz.com/usdr/issues/alert/?alertid=12888756>

H.R.593 : **CRSC for DoD Disability Severances Pay.** To amend title 10, United States Code, to expand the authorized concurrent receipt of disability severance pay from the Department of Defense and compensation for the same disability under any law administered by the Department of Veterans Affairs to cover all veterans who have a combat-related disability, as defined under section 1413a of such title.

Sponsor: Rep Smith, Adam [WA-9] (introduced 1/15/2009)

Cosponsors (44)

Committees: House Armed Services

Latest Major Action: 2/6/2009 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=12918951&queueid=\[capwiz:queue_id\]](http://capwiz.com/usdr/issues/alert/?alertid=12918951&queueid=[capwiz:queue_id])

H.R.775 : **Military Surviving Spouses Equity Act** to repeal the requirement for reduction of survivor annuities under the Survivor Benefit Plan to offset the receipt of veterans dependency and indemnity compensation.

Sponsor: Rep Ortiz, Solomon P. [TX-27] (introduced 1/28/2009)
Cosponsors (349) Companion Bill S.535
Committees: House Armed Services

Latest Major Action: 3/15/2010 Motion to Discharge Committee filed by Mr. Jones. Petition No: 111-10.

To support this bill and/or contact your legislators send a message via <http://capwiz.com/usdr/issues/alert/?alertid=12541746>

To support the Discharge Petition send a message via [http://capwiz.com/usdr/issues/alert/?alertid=14825891&queueid=\[capwiz:queue_id\]](http://capwiz.com/usdr/issues/alert/?alertid=14825891&queueid=[capwiz:queue_id])

S.535 : **SBP DIC Offset Elimination**. A bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to repeal requirement for reduction of survivor annuities under the Survivor Benefit Plan by veterans' dependency and indemnity compensation, and for other purposes. Companion Bill H.775.

Sponsor: Sen Nelson, Bill [FL] (introduced 3/5/2009)
Cosponsors (58)

Committees: Senate Armed Services latest Major Action: 3/5/2009 Referred to Senate committee. Status: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Armed Services.

To support this bill and/or contact your Senator send a message via [http://capwiz.com/usdr/issues/alert/?alertid=14275496&queueid=\[capwiz:queue_id\]](http://capwiz.com/usdr/issues/alert/?alertid=14275496&queueid=[capwiz:queue_id])

H.R.2243 : **Surviving Spouses Benefit Improvement Act of 2009** to amend title 38, United States Code, to provide for an increase in the amount of monthly dependency and indemnity compensation payable to surviving spouses by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs.

Sponsor: Rep Buyer, Steve [IN-4] (introduced 5/5/2009)
Cosponsors (77)

Committees: House Veterans' Affairs

Latest Major Action: 10/8/2009 House committee/subcommittee actions. Status: Subcommittee Hearings Held.

To support this bill and/or contact your legislators send a message via [http://capwiz.com/usdr/issues/alert/?alertid=13303636&queueid=\[capwiz:queue_id\]](http://capwiz.com/usdr/issues/alert/?alertid=13303636&queueid=[capwiz:queue_id])

S.1118 : **DIC Compensation Rate Increase to 55%**. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to provide for an increase in the amount of monthly dependency and indemnity compensation payable to surviving spouses by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: Sen Lincoln, Blanche L. [AR] (introduced 5/21/2009)
Cosponsors (3)
Committees: Senate Veterans' Affairs
Latest Major Action: 10/21/2009 Senate committee/subcommittee actions. Status: Committee on Veterans' Affairs. Hearings held.

H.R.208 : ***National Guardsmen and Reservists Parity for Patriots Act*** to amend title 10, United States Code, to ensure that members of the reserve components of the Armed Forces who have served on active duty or performed active service since September 11, 2001, in support of a contingency operation or in other emergency situations receive credit for such service in determining eligibility for early receipt of non-regular service retired pay, and for other purposes. Companion Bill S.644.

Sponsor: Rep Wilson, Joe [SC-2] (introduced 1/6/2009)
Cosponsors (166)

Committees: House Armed Services
Latest Major Action: 1/30/2009 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/vfw/dbq/officials> and /or <http://capwiz.com/ngaus/mail/compose/?mailid=13672261&azip=92571&bzip=7311>

S.644 : ***National Guard and Reserve Retired Pay Equity Act of 2009***. A bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to include service after September 11, 2001, as service qualifying for the determination of a reduced eligibility age for receipt of non-regular service retired pay.

Sponsor: Sen Chambliss, Saxby [GA] (introduced 3/19/2009)
Cosponsors (13) Companion Bill H.R.208 Related Bill S.831
Committees: Senate Armed Services

Latest Major Action: 3/19/2009 Referred to Senate committee. Status: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Armed Services.

To support this bill and/or contact your Senators send a message via [http://capwiz.com/ncoausa/issues/alert/?alertid=12995086&queueid=\[capwiz:queue_id\]](http://capwiz.com/ncoausa/issues/alert/?alertid=12995086&queueid=[capwiz:queue_id]) or <http://capwiz.com/moaa/issues/bills/?bill=12960556>

S.831 : ***National Guard and Reserve Retired Pay Equity Act of 2009***. A bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to include service after September 11, 2001, as service qualifying for the determination of a reduced eligibility age for receipt of non-regular service retired pay.

Sponsor: Sen Kerry, John F. [MA] (introduced 4/20/2009)
Cosponsors (34) Related Bill S.644
Committees: Senate Armed Services
Latest Major Action: 4/20/2009 Referred to Senate committee. Status:
Read twice and referred to the Committee on Armed Services.
To support this bill and/or contact your Senators send a message via
www.ngaus.org/content.asp?bid=1805

H.R.433 : **Ready Employers Willing to Assist Reservists' Deployment (REWARD) Act** of 2009 to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow employers a credit against income tax equal to 50 percent of the compensation paid to employees while they are performing active duty service as members of the Ready Reserve or the National Guard and of the compensation paid to temporary replacement employees.

Sponsor: Rep Poe, Ted [TX-2] (introduced 1/9/2009) Cosponsors (40)
Committees: House Ways and Means
Latest Major Action: 1/9/2009 Referred to House committee. Status: Referred to the House Committee on Ways and Means.

H.R.466 : **Wounded Veteran Job Security Act** to amend title 38, United States Code, to prohibit discrimination and acts of reprisal against persons who receive treatment for illnesses, injuries, and disabilities incurred in or aggravated by service in the uniformed services.

Sponsor: Rep Doggett, Lloyd [TX-25] (introduced 1/13/2009)
Cosponsors (8)
Committees: House Veterans' Affairs
Latest Major Action: 6/9/2009 **Referred to Senate committee.**
Status: Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

H.R.1089 : Veterans Employment Rights to amend title 38,
United States Code, to provide for the enforcement through the Office
of Special Counsel of the employment and unemployment rights of
veterans and members of the Armed Forces employed by Federal
executive agencies, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: Rep Herseth Sandlin, Stephanie [SD] (introduced
2/13/2009) Cosponsors (None)

Committees: House Veterans' Affairs

Latest Major Action: 5/20/2009 Referred to Senate committee. Status:
Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee
on Veterans' Affairs.

**H.R.1647 : Veterans' Employment Transition Support Act of
2009 to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow
employers a credit against income tax for hiring veterans.**

Sponsor: Rep McCotter, Thaddeus G. [MI-11] (introduced
3/19/2009) Cosponsors (None)

Committees: House Ways and Means

Latest Major Action: 3/19/2009 Referred to House committee. Status:
Referred to the House Committee on Ways and Means.

**H.R.293 : Homeless Women Veteran and Homeless Veterans
with Children Reintegration Grant Program Act of 2009** to
amend title 38, United States Code, to direct the Secretary of Labor to
carry out a grant program to provide reintegration services through
programs and facilities that emphasize services for homeless women
veterans and homeless veterans with children.

Sponsor: Rep Buyer, Steve [IN-4] (introduced 1/8/2009)
Cosponsors (15)

Committees: House Veterans' Affairs

Latest Major Action: 1/8/2009 Referred to House subcommittee.
Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on Health.

S.1237 : *Homeless Women Veterans and Homeless Veterans with Children Act of 2009.* A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to expand the grant program for homeless veterans with special needs to include male homeless veterans with minor dependents and to establish a grant program for reintegration of homeless women veterans and homeless veterans with children, and for other purposes. Sponsor: Sen Murray, Patty [WA] (introduced 6/11/2009)

Cosponsors (10)

Committees: Senate Veterans' Affairs

Latest Major Action: 1/28/2010 Senate committee/subcommittee actions. Status: Committee on Veterans' Affairs. Date of scheduled consideration. SR-418. 9:30 a.m.

H.R.1211 : *Women Veterans Health Care Improvement Act to amend title 38,* United States Code, to expand and improve health care services available to women veterans, especially those serving in Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom, from the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes. Companion Bill S.597

Sponsor: Rep Herseth Sandlin, Stephanie [SD] (introduced 2/26/2009) Cosponsors (51)

House Reports: 111-165 Latest Major Action: 6/24/2009 Referred to Senate committee. Status: Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

To support this bill and/or contact your legislators send a message via [http://capwiz.com/usdr/issues/alert/?alertid=12833716&queueid=\[capwiz:queue_id\]](http://capwiz.com/usdr/issues/alert/?alertid=12833716&queueid=[capwiz:queue_id])

H.R.2583 : *Women Veterans Access to Care Act* to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to improve health care for women veterans, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: Rep Boswell, Leonard L. [IA-3] (introduced 5/21/2009) Cosponsors (9)

Committees: House Veterans' Affairs

Latest Major Action: 5/21/2009 Referred to House committee. Status: Referred to the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

S.597 : Women Veterans Health Care Improvement Act of 2009.

A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to expand and improve health care services available to women veterans, especially those serving in operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom, from the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes.

Companion Bill H.R.1211

Sponsor: Sen Murray, Patty [WA] (introduced 3/16/2009)

Cosponsors (20)

Committees: Senate Veterans' Affairs

Latest Major Action: 3/16/2009 Referred to Senate committee. Status: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

H.R.1232 : Far South Texas Veterans Medical Center Act of

2009 to authorize the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to construct a full service hospital in Far South Texas.

Sponsor: Rep Ortiz, Solomon P. [TX-27] (introduced 2/26/2009) Cosponsors (6)

Committees: House Veterans' Affairs

Latest Major Action: 2/26/2009 Referred to House subcommittee. Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on Health.

S.699 : South Texas Veterans' Hospital. A bill to provide for the construction by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs of a full service hospital in Far South Texas.

Sponsor: Sen Cornyn, John [TX] (introduced 3/25/2009)

Cosponsors (1)

Committees: Senate Veterans' Affairs

Latest Major Action: 3/25/2009 Referred to Senate committee. Status: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

H.R.1428 : VA Parkinson's Disease Compensation. To amend title 38, United States Code, to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to provide wartime disability compensation for certain veterans with Parkinson's disease.

Sponsor: Rep Filner, Bob [CA-51] (introduced 3/11/2009)

Cosponsors (84)

Committees: House Veterans' Affairs

Latest Major Action: 3/13/2009 Referred to House subcommittee. Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on Disability Assistance and Memorial Affairs.

To support this bill and/or contact your legislators send a message via [http://capwiz.com/usdr/issues/alert/?alertid=12986021&queueid=\[capwiz:queue_id\]](http://capwiz.com/usdr/issues/alert/?alertid=12986021&queueid=[capwiz:queue_id])

S.1752 : **Parkinson's Disease VA Compensation.** A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to provide wartime disability compensation for certain veterans with Parkinson's disease.

Sponsor: Sen Sanders, Bernard [VT] (introduced 10/5/2009)

Cosponsors (1)

Committees: Senate Veterans' Affairs

Latest Major Action: 10/21/2009 Senate committee/subcommittee actions. Status: Committee on Veterans' Affairs. Hearings held.

H.R.2254 : **The Agent Orange Equity Act** to amend title 38, United States Code, to clarify presumptions relating to the exposure of certain veterans who served in the vicinity of the Republic of Vietnam.

Sponsor: Rep Filner, Bob [CA-51] (introduced 5/5/2009) Cosponsors (257)

Committees: House Veterans' Affairs

Latest Major Action: 5/8/2009 Referred to House subcommittee.

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

To support this bill and/or contact your legislators send a message via [http://capwiz.com/usdr/issues/alert/?alertid=13301656&queueid=\[capwiz:queue_id\]](http://capwiz.com/usdr/issues/alert/?alertid=13301656&queueid=[capwiz:queue_id])

S.1939 : **Vet Presumptive Exposure in Vietnam.** A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to clarify presumptions relating to the exposure of certain veterans who served in the vicinity of the Republic of Vietnam, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: Sen Gillibrand, Kirsten E. [NY] (introduced 10/27/2009)

Cosponsors (19)

Committees: Senate Veterans' Affairs

Latest Major Action: 5/19/2010 Senate committee/subcommittee actions. Status: Committee on Veterans' Affairs. Hearings held.

H.R.2926 : VA Special Care for Vietnam-era & Persian Gulf War Vets Exposed to Herbicides. To amend title 38, United States Code, to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to provide, without expiration, hospital care, medical services, and nursing home care for certain Vietnam-era veterans exposed to herbicide and veterans of the Persian Gulf War.

Sponsor: Rep Nye, Glenn C., III [VA-2] (introduced 6/17/2009)

Cosponsors (5)

Latest Major Action: 7/9/2009 House committee/subcommittee actions. Status: Forwarded by Subcommittee to Full Committee (Amended) by Voice Vote.

H.R.3491 : Thomas G. Schubert Agent Orange Fairness Act to amend title 38, United States Code, to establish a presumption of service connection for certain cancers occurring in veterans who served in the Republic of Vietnam and were exposed to certain herbicide agents, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: Rep Kagen, Steve [WI-8] (introduced 7/31/2009)

Cosponsors (10)

Committees: House Veterans' Affairs

Latest Major Action: 9/11/2009 Referred to House subcommittee.

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

H.R.177 : Depleted Uranium Screening and Testing Act to provide for identification of members of the Armed Forces exposed during military service to depleted uranium, to provide for health testing of such members, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: Rep Serrano, Jose E. [NY-16] (introduced 1/6/2009)

Cosponsors (2)

Committees: House Armed Services

Latest Major Action: 1/30/2009 Referred to House subcommittee.

Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on Military Personnel.

H.R.2419 : Military Personnel War Zone Toxic Exposure Prevention Act to require the Secretary of Defense to establish a medical surveillance system to identify members of the Armed Forces exposed to chemical hazards resulting from the disposal of waste in Iraq and Afghanistan, to prohibit the disposal of waste by the Armed Forces in a manner that would produce dangerous levels of toxins, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: Rep Bishop, Timothy H. [NY-1] (introduced 5/14/2009)

Cosponsors (23)

Committees: House Armed Services

Latest Major Action: 6/8/2009 Referred to House subcommittee.

Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on Readiness.

S.642 : Health Care for Members of the Armed Forces Exposed to Chemical Hazards Act of 2009. A bill to require the Secretary of Defense to establish registries of members and former members of the Armed Forces exposed in the line of duty to occupational and environmental health chemical hazards, to amend title 38, United States Code, to provide health care to veterans exposed to such hazards, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: Sen Bayh, Evan [IN] (introduced 3/19/2009)

Cosponsors (7)

Committees: Senate Armed Services

Latest Major Action: 3/19/2009 Referred to Senate committee. Status:

Read twice and referred to the Committee on Armed Services.

S.1779 : Health Care for Veterans Exposed to Chemical Hazards Act of 2009. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to provide health care to veterans exposed in the line of duty to occupational and environmental health chemical hazards, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: Sen Bayh, Evan [IN] (introduced 10/14/2009)

Cosponsors (7)

Committees: Senate Veterans' Affairs

Latest Major Action: 10/21/2009 Senate committee/subcommittee actions. Status: Committee on Veterans' Affairs. Hearings held.

S.1518 : **Caring for Camp Lejeune Veterans Act of 2009**. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to furnish hospital care, medical services, and nursing home care to veterans who were stationed at Camp Lejeune, North Carolina, while the water was contaminated at Camp Lejeune.

Sponsor: Sen Burr, Richard [NC] (introduced 7/27/2009)

Cosponsors (15)

Committees: Senate Veterans' Affairs

Latest Major Action: 10/21/2009 Senate committee/subcommittee actions. Status: Committee on Veterans' Affairs. Hearings held.

H.R.568 : **Veterans Health Care Quality Improvement Act** to amend title 38, United States Code, to improve the quality of care provided to veterans in Department of Veterans Affairs medical facilities, to encourage highly qualified doctors to serve in hard-to-fill positions in such medical facilities, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: Rep Costello, Jerry F. [IL-12] (introduced 1/15/2009)

Cosponsors (4)

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

Latest Major Action: 1/15/2009 Referred to House subcommittee.

Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on Health.

H.R.952 : **Compensation Owed for Mental Health Based on Activities in Theater Post-traumatic Stress Disorder Act** to amend title 38, United States Code, to clarify the meaning of "combat with the enemy" for purposes of service-connection of disabilities.

Sponsor: Rep Hall, John J. [NY-19] (introduced 2/10/2009)

Cosponsors (95)

Committees: House Veterans' Affairs

Latest Major Action: 6/10/2009 House committee/subcommittee actions. Status: Ordered to be Reported (Amended) by Voice Vote.

S.1452 : **COMBAT PTSD Act**. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to clarify the meaning of "combat with the enemy" for purposes of service-connection of disabilities.

Sponsor: Sen Schumer, Charles E. [NY] (introduced 7/14/2009)

Cosponsors (5)

Committees: Senate Veterans' Affairs

Latest Major Action: 7/14/2009 Referred to Senate committee. Status: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

H.R.1544 : **Veterans Mental Health Accessibility Act** to amend title 38, United States Code, to provide for unlimited eligibility for health care for mental illnesses for veterans of combat service during certain periods of hostilities and war.

Sponsor: Rep Driehaus, Steve [OH-1] (introduced 3/17/2009)

Cosponsors (7)

Committees: House Veterans' Affairs

Latest Major Action: 3/17/2009 Referred to House committee. Status: Referred to the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

H.R.1701 : **PTSD/TBI Guaranteed Review For Heroes Act** to amend title 10, United States Code, to direct the Secretary of Defense to establish a special review board for certain former members of the Armed Forces with post-traumatic stress disorder or a traumatic brain injury, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: Rep Jones, Walter B., Jr. [NC-3] (introduced 3/25/2009)

Cosponsors (11)

Committees: House Armed Services

Latest Major Action: 4/27/2009 Referred to House subcommittee.

Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on Military Personnel.

H.R.4051 : **Cold War Service Medal Act of 2009** to amend title 10, United States Code, to provide for the award of a military service medal to members of the Armed Forces who served honorably during the Cold War, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: Rep Israel, Steve [NY-2] (introduced 11/6/2009) Cosponsors (45) Related bill: S.2743

Committees: House Armed Services

Latest Major Action: 11/18/2009 Referred to House subcommittee.

Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on Military Personnel.

S.2743 : **Cold War Service Medal Act of 2009**. A bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to provide for the award of a military service medal to members of the Armed Forces who served honorably during the Cold War, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: Sen Snowe, Olympia J. [ME] (introduced 11/5/2009)

Cosponsors (8) Related bill: H.R.4051

Committees: Senate Armed Services

Latest Major Action: 11/5/2009 Referred to Senate committee. Status: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Armed Services.

S.1556 : **Veteran Voting Support Act of 2009**. A bill to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to permit facilities of the Department of Veterans Affairs to be designated as voter registration agencies, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: Sen Feinstein, Dianne [CA] (introduced 8/3/2009)

Cosponsors (6)

Committees: Senate Veterans' Affairs

Latest Major Action: 10/21/2009 Senate committee/subcommittee actions. Status: Committee on Veterans' Affairs. Hearings held.