



## PRESS RELEASE

Vietnam Veterans of America

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IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 19, 2017

No. 17-48

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### **RAND Study Finds ACA Repeal Will Strain VA; Any ACA Repeal Must Invest in VA Infrastructure**

(Washington, D.C.)—“Last week, RAND Corporation, a widely respected, nonpartisan research institution, released the report, *Veterans Health Insurance Coverage Under the Affordable Care Act and Implications of Repeal for the Department of Veterans Affairs*,” said John Rowan, President of Vietnam Veterans of America. “The study released by RAND Corporation adds weight to this argument that we’ve been making to Congress through countless meetings and hearings.”

The report found that efforts to repeal the Affordable Care Act would result in the VA being flooded with older, lower income, and less-healthy nonelderly veterans. This additional patient load would be caused by the end of ACA insurance plans that formerly uninsured veterans have opted to use.

“We’re at a time when demand at the VA is increasing because the Vietnam generation is aging, and new veterans are starting to deal with health issues related to their recent deployments,” Rowan continued. “VVA urges in the strongest possible terms that any ACA repeal must be tied to an increase in funding for the Veterans Health Administration to offset any influx of new VA patients. Our veterans shouldn’t be an after-thought.”

*Vietnam Veterans of America (VVA) is the nation's only congressionally chartered veterans service organization dedicated to the needs of Vietnam-era veterans and their families. VVA's founding principle is “Never again will one generation of veterans abandon another.”*

