



## PRESS RELEASE

Vietnam Veterans of America

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IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **VVA Applauds House Passage of *VA Mission Act*; Urges Senate to Follow Suit**

**(Washington, D.C.)--**“VVA applauds today’s overwhelming passage of the *VA Mission Act* by the House of Representatives and commends Rep. Phil Roe (R-TN) for his outstanding leadership in his role as chair of the House Committee on Veterans Affairs,” said John Rowan, president of Vietnam Veterans of America. “We prevail on the Senate for the swift passage of this critical legislation.”

“This bipartisan bill, H.R. 5674/S.2372--introduced by Rep. Roe, who amended the title to honor three senators, the *John S. McCain III, Daniel K. Akaka, and Samuel R. Johnson VA Maintaining Internal Systems and Strengthening Integrated Outside Networks Act--* will both strengthen the VA’s capacity as well as allow veterans more choice in their health care,” said Rowan.

“VVA has long advocated for the extension of the family caregiver provisions to veterans from pre-9/11 eras. *The VA Mission Act* would expand eligibility and extends caregiver support to veterans from all wars with a serious injury incurred or aggravated in the line of duty, and is a very welcome provision of this legislation,” said Rowan.

“By reauthorizing funding for the VA Choice Program, anticipated to run out of funds by the end of May, *The VA Mission Act* ensures uninterrupted access to care for our veterans while proposing measures to streamline VA’s community care programs into one cohesive program.

“VVA salutes Chairman Roe and the House Majority on the passage of this much-needed bill. There is more work to be done in the immediate future to ensure proper staffing of the existing VA hospitals, and we look forward to working in a bipartisan manner to ensure that happens,” noted Rowan.

