



PRESS RELEASE

Vietnam Veterans of America

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Senate Passes VA Mission Act; VVA Calls on President to Sign Bill Now

(Washington, D.C.)—"The *VA Mission Act* is the result of years of pressure from our members across the country, and its swift passage represents the kind of bipartisan work that Congress accomplishes when they focus on veterans," said John Rowan, Vietnam Veterans of America national president. "We urge President Trump to sign this important legislation immediately, so that the VA can get to work on enacting these important reforms right away."

The *VA Mission Act*, a \$52 billion spending package, passed the Senate by a 92-5 vote, after sweeping through the House on a 347-70 vote. The legislation consolidates the Department of Veterans Affairs' seven separate community care programs into one streamlined program in order to reduce bureaucracy and confusion for both veterans and the VA staff charged with caring for them.

A critical provision of the *VA Mission Act* is the expansion of the caregiver-support program to pre-9/11 veterans. This expansion will be rolled out over time to ensure that a surge in demand doesn't overwhelm the VA's already strained information-technology systems. Once fully enacted, the *VA Mission Act* will ensure that the caregivers of veterans of all eras are provided equality in support.

"VVA's members have had to wait far too long, and have had to fight far too hard for these reforms," continued Rowan. "The President must sign this legislation immediately."

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