



## PRESS RELEASE

Vietnam Veterans of America

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IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **VVA Calls for Prioritization of PFAS Provisions in NDAA**

**(Washington, D.C.)**—“Stripping provisions from the National Defense Authorization Act that would order the Environmental Protection Agency and the Department of Defense to clean up pollution from per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances, or PFAS, is short-sighted and ill-advised,” said John Rowan, president of Vietnam Veterans of America.

“VVA calls on Senate Armed Services Chairman James M. Inhofe (R-Okla.) and House Armed Services Chairman Adam Smith (D-Wash.) to prioritize the PFAS provisions of the Pentagon authorization bill, which would require the Pentagon and the EPA to address pollution from toxic chemicals and would require the DoD to clean up its legacy pollution related to firefighting foam,” said Rowan.

“The health of our service members and their families continues to be jeopardized by these toxicants. DoD helped create PFAS-based fighting foam and is well aware of its risks,” noted Rowan. “PFAS have been found at nearly 300 military bases nationwide, where firefighting foam was used. Characterized as ‘forever chemicals,’ PFAS permeate the water table. They have polluted water supplies for millions of Americans and are responsible for devastating health effects. We urge the Pentagon to take responsibility for the environmental contamination it has caused and address the PFAS pollution.”

“We call for the EPA to list PFAS chemicals as hazardous substances under the Superfund law. Further, we ask for these bases to be designated superfund sites and for the military to restore sites it had contaminated over time,” said Rowan.

