

VFW Legislative Alert: Urge Passage of Comprehensive Veterans' and Health Benefits Package Today!

Jan 23, 2014

Background: Senate Veterans' Affairs Committee Chairman, Bernie Sanders introduced the *Veterans Health and Benefits and Military Retirement Pay Restoration Act of 2014*. The bill, **S. 1950**, is the most comprehensive veterans legislation to be introduced in decades. It addresses many of the VFW's legislative priority goals, including a full repeal of the military retiree one percent COLA reduction that penalizes working-age military retirees and their families.

If signed into law, this sweeping legislation would expand and improve health care and benefit services to all generations of veterans and their families. Most notably, it would expand the current caregiver law to include all generations of veterans and provide advance appropriations to ensure monthly compensation and pension as well as education payments are protected from future budget battles. The bill also offers in-state tuition protection for recently transitioned veterans, improves access to mental health and treatment for victims of sexual assault in the military, and authorizes construction of more than 20 Community Bases Outpatient Clinics to serve veterans in rural and remote communities.

Action Needed: Call and email your Senators today. Urge them to pass **S. 1950**, the *Veterans Health and Benefits and Military Retirement Restoration Act of 2014*. Tell them that this historic legislation will provide vital services to all generations of veterans and their families. Remind them that past, present and future veterans have earned the critical services this legislation will provide.

[Read VFW Commander-in-Chief Bill Thien's letter of support.](#)
[Take action now!](#)

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