

# TAKE CARE OF AMERICA'S VETERANS ACT – (TCAVA)

## What Veterans & Their Families Win with TCVA

Right now, a rare opportunity is available to deliver 62 bipartisan, bicameral bills The Legion has previously supported. The Take Care of America's Veterans Act (TCVA) includes priorities like the **Major Richard Star Act**, the **Love Lives On Act**, the **VITAL Act**, the **HONOR Act**, the **SAVES Act**, and **57 others** delivering benefits, health care, education, and essential services to combat-injured veterans, surviving spouses, and families.

For the first time in a generation, the votes and resources line up to move dozens of long-stalled priorities **together**. Rather than letting the moment pass and having veterans go back to waiting indefinitely for single-issue bills to pass one by one, The American Legion is capitalizing on it.

For more information go to: [Take Care of America's Veterans Act](#) | [The American Legion](#)

## A COALITION OF SUPPORT: TAKE CARE OF AMERICA'S VETERANS ACT (TCVA)

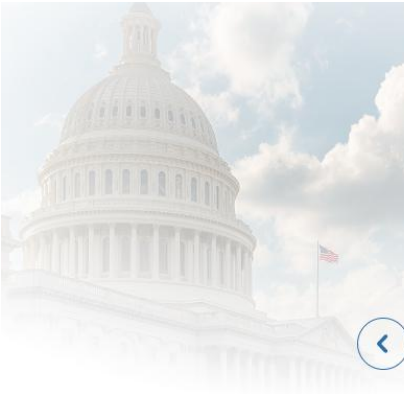
The American Legion and 22 other veterans service organizations sent a coalition letter to the top leadership of the House and Senate Committees on Veterans' Affairs on June 29, calling for Congress to pass the Take Care of America's Veterans Act (TCVA).

### ▼ [View the 23 Veterans Service Organizations in the coalition](#)

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The American Legion</li><li>• Military Officers Association of America (MOAA)</li><li>• Wounded Warrior Project</li><li>• Elizabeth Dole Foundation</li><li>• Tragedy Assistance Program for Survivors (TAPS)</li><li>• American Veterans (AMVETS)</li><li>• Air Force Sergeants Association</li><li>• American Optometric Association</li><li>• Avalon Action Alliance</li><li>• Commissioned Officers Association of the USPHS (COA)</li><li>• Gold Star Spouses of America</li><li>• K9s For Warriors</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Korean War Veterans Association</li><li>• Military Chaplains Association</li><li>• Military Order of the Purple Heart (MOPH)</li><li>• Mission Roll Call</li><li>• National Defense Committee</li><li>• National Military Family Association (NMFA)</li><li>• Sons and Daughters In Touch</li><li>• United States Army Warrant Officers Association (USAWOA)</li><li>• USCG Chief Petty Officers Association (CPOA)</li><li>• Veterans Justice Alliance</li><li>• Vietnam Veterans of America</li></ul> |
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## TCVA AT-A-GLANCE

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|--------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|
| ► <b>MENTAL HEALTH</b> – 9 PROVISIONS                        | ► <b>WOMEN VETERANS</b> – 3 PROVISIONS                                |
| ► <b>SUICIDE &amp; OVERDOSE PREVENTION</b> – 4 PROVISIONS    | ► <b>EDUCATION, TRANSITION &amp; CAREERS</b> – 11 PROVISIONS          |
| ► <b>COMBAT-INJURED &amp; DISABLED</b> – 8 PROVISIONS        | ► <b>RURAL &amp; UNDERSERVED VETERANS</b> – 5 PROVISIONS              |
| ► <b>ACCESS TO CARE &amp; COMMUNITY CARE</b> – 20 PROVISIONS | ► <b>FAMILIES, SURVIVORS &amp; CARETAKERS</b> – 11 PROVISIONS         |
| ► <b>CLAIMS &amp; APPEALS</b> – 9 PROVISIONS                 | ► <b>VA OVERSIGHT, WORKFORCE &amp; INFRASTRUCTURE</b> – 25 PROVISIONS |



## WHAT TCAVA DELIVERS...

This once-in-a-generation opportunity will strengthen benefits, care and support for veterans, service members and their families.

32M+

< Veterans, Service Members, Caregivers, Survivors & Families Positively Impacted

21M+

Veterans Gain Better Access to VA, Rural, Senior & Community Care

637K+

Veterans with TBI, Blast Exposure, PTSD & Mental Health Needs Will Receive Expanded Care

930K+

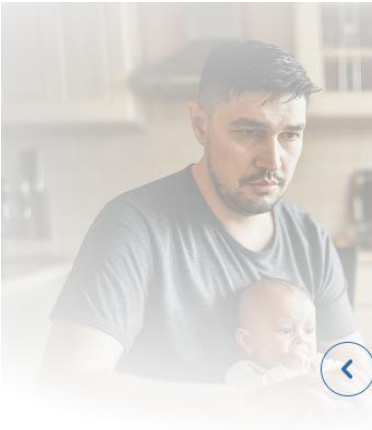
Women Veterans Gain Expanded, Targeted Health Care Services

500K+

Survivors & Families Receive Expanded Benefits

2.5M+

Claims Processed Yearly Through a Faster, Fairer System



## WHAT'S AT STAKE

The cost of inaction is measured in delayed benefits, lost opportunities, and the veterans, families and caregivers left waiting for support they've earned.

6.2M+

< Veterans & Transitioning Service Members Will Not Have Access to the GI Bill, Job Training, or Other Support to Build a Life After Service

80K

Severely Disabled Veterans Left Without Critical Support

200K+

Appeals Remain Pending. Veterans Will Keep Waiting For Decisions on Benefits They've Earned.

500K+

Survivors & Families Continue Facing Support Gaps

6.8K

Caregivers Who Left Their Jobs to Care for Wounded Veterans Receive No Help Rebuilding Careers or Coverage

59K

Combat-Injured Retirees Will Still Not Be Able To Keep Both Their Retirement Pay And Their Disability Pay

## **CLAIM:**

*"TCAVA cuts sleep apnea and tinnitus disability ratings."*

## **FACT:**

The proposed rating changes for sleep apnea and tinnitus originated with the VA's ongoing rewrite of the VA Schedule for Rating Disabilities (VASRD), not with TCAVA. The VA first proposed these changes in February 2022 through regulation years before TCAVA existed.

For sleep apnea, VA has proposed moving away from automatically assigning a 50% rating based on CPAP use and instead rating veterans based on the level of impairment that remains after treatment.

For tinnitus, VA has proposed ending the standalone 10% rating and instead evaluating it as a symptom of another service-connected condition.

Existing ratings are still protected in TCAVA, and the proposed changes would primarily affect future claims and future rating decisions.

## **CLAIM:**

*"The trade-offs aren't worth it."*

## **FACT:**

The choice is not TCAVA versus a perfect bill.

The current choice available is TCAVA versus continued gridlock on a long list of reforms veterans have earned but are yet to receive.

### **CLAIM:**

*"Just wait for a better deal."*

### **FACT:**

**The Star Act has waited since 2020.**

Despite having 79 Senate and 334 House co-sponsors, it still has not passed in 6 years. Waiting is the status quo that fails veterans.

### **CLAIM:**

*"TCAVA cuts veterans' benefits."*

### **FACT:**

**No veteran loses a benefit they already receive.** The Legion does not support retroactive cuts, and TCAVA does not include any.

### **CLAIM:**

*"TCAVA takes money away from veterans with sleep apnea and tinnitus."*

### **FACT:**

**If the VA implements its proposed rating changes through regulation without TCAVA, any resulting savings could return to the general federal budget.**

TCAVA would instead direct any savings from the VA rating changes toward veteran-focused priorities, including the Major Richard Star Act, caregiver support, survivor benefits, and other provisions that expand benefits and services for veterans and their families.

### **CLAIM:**

*"This bill is privatization of VA."*

### **FACT:**

**This bill includes billions of dollars for VA direct care and requires a long-term infrastructure investment strategy.**

It also requires a 60-day notice, including a risk mitigation plan and performance metrics, to Congress and VA employees before any reduction in force, and it requires the VA to terminate contracts with noncompliant community care partners.

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### **CLAIM:**

*"Legion is violating it's own PAYGO resolution."*

### **FACT:**

It is common for legislation to include provisions where Legion resolutions compete against one another. **In this case, there are nearly 30 American Legion resolutions in support of the bill, with 2 in opposition.**