

Legislative Priorities*
116th Congress

Prevent Any Efforts to Increase TRICARE Fees

NMVA will work with lawmakers and the greater MSO/VSO community to prevent increases in TRICARE fees, limitations to access, or reduction in coverage for all beneficiaries

Fully Fund the VA MISSION Act

NMVA will work to ensure that the Administration and Office of Management and Budget fully funds the MISSION Act, paying particular attention to the Community Care and Caregiver expansion provisions, without using “pay-fors” or “offsets” that would negatively affect other veteran programs.

Improving the VA Caregiver Program

NMVA will urge the DVA to establish a permanent Caregiver designation for our most catastrophically disabled veterans and establish, and enforce, national eligibility standards for the Caregiver program, that apply to both initial eligibility determinations and to the annual eligibility reevaluations.

Blue Water Navy Vietnam Veterans Act

NMVA will continue its efforts in the 116th Congress to ensure our "Blue Water" veterans are finally recognized and treated by the VA for Agent Orange related illnesses.

Draft and Introduce New Concurrent Receipt Legislation Focusing on Chapter 61 Retirees

NMVA will support Rep. Bishop and his staff in revising and introducing legislation that seeks to begin the elimination of the offset, starting with Chapter 61 retirees.

Health Equity and Access for Returning Troops and Servicemembers (HEARTS) Act

NMVA will work to have this bill re-introduced and passed. This bill will end a current inequity which forces service members who are medically retired under Chapter 61 and who, due the severity of their injuries, are eligible for Social Security Disability Insurance to purchase and maintain Medicare Part B.

Ending the SBP-DIC Offset

NMVA will support efforts to allow military retiree survivors to receive full Survivor Benefit Plan annuities AND full Disability and Indemnification Compensation payments which they are entitled to due to the service-connected nature of their military retiree spouse's death.

Veteran Treatment Court Coordination Act

NMVA will support efforts to establish a point of contact at the Department of Justice to provide federal technical assistance to existing veteran treatment courts and areas trying to start them and tasks the DoJ to work with the VA to establish a program to provide grants, training, and technical assistance to help state, local, and tribal governments in their development.

*NMVA will engage in numerous issues throughout the current congressional session and is not limited to those listed above.