



National Military and Veterans Alliance

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**PRESS RELEASE
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National Military and Veterans Alliance Commends Congress for Commitment to Combatting Antibiotic-Resistant Bacteria that Pose an Urgent Threat to U.S. Military

WASHINGTON—The National Military and Veterans Alliance (NMVA), a nonpartisan policy and advocacy organization composed of military associations and veterans organizations, applauds the U.S. Congress for passing legislation that will take aim at the growing threat of antibiotic-resistant bacteria. Superbugs are infecting our service members, veterans, and fellow citizens at an alarming rate, and pose a unique threat to our wounded warriors. Yet, we increasingly do not have drugs to effectively treat them.

Thanks to leadership from champions such as Representatives John Shimkus (R-Ill) and Gene Green (D-TX) and Senators Orrin Hatch (R-UT) and Michael Bennet (D-CO), the 21st Century Cures Act passed by both chambers of Congress, includes several provisions important to the fight against superbugs. Notably, the bill includes policies that will help spur the innovation of antibiotics desperately needed by patients with serious and life-threatening infections that don't respond to currently available treatments.

Through the creation of a new, Limited-Population Antibacterial Drug pathway, the Food and Drug Administration will now have a mechanism to review and approve antibacterial drugs that address unmet medical needs for specific, limited populations of patients at highest risk. This targeted approach will make antibiotic development more feasible, and help ensure that soldiers, who survive combat wounds, don't ultimately face the atrocity of succumbing to a resistant infection after returning home.

The Alliance members below are proud to have endorsed previous appeals urging the Congress to make antibiotic development an urgent priority, and offer their thanks to policymakers who voted for this critical legislation.

American Military Retirees Association
American Military Society
American Retirees Association
Association of the United States
Navy Korean War Veterans Foundation
The Flag and General Officers Network
Military Order of the Purple Heart
National Association for Uniformed Services
National Defense Committee
Society of Military Widows
The Retired Enlisted Association
Tragedy Assistance Program for Survivors
Vietnam Veterans of America

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The National Military and Veterans Alliance (NMVA) was founded in 1996 as an open umbrella group of military associations and veterans organizations in order to advance common goals and to secure common interests. NMVA offers its association members a forum to discuss its membership's interests and ensure Alliance understanding and support. www.nmva.us