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Legislative Update on Care for our Wounded, Ill, and Injured Service Members, Veterans, and their Families/Caregivers

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January 28, 2010

Access to Care

- Aid and Attendance
- Respite Care
- Veteran's stipend for caregivers who can not assist
- VA pilot programs
- Recent laws and proposed legislation

Legislative Update: NDAA FY 2008

- Establishment of care management (Recovery Care Coordinators, and Medical and Non-medical care managers)
- Medical care services and support services for families
- Respite care
- Establishment of the Wounded Warrior Resource Center
- Development of a handbook of compensation and benefits
- Study of the impact of deployment on service members and families
- Development of individualized care plans with TBI

Legislative Update: NDAA FY 2008

- Establishment of Center of Excellence for TBI, psychological health, and military eye injuries
- Utilization of VA rating disabilities
- Review of service members separated with 20 percent or less
- Interoperable electronic personal health information
- Transition of care through DoD and VA
- Continuation of transitional health care benefits
- Utilization of non-department facilities for TBI
- Assistant Living services for Veterans with TBI (pilot)
- Age appropriate Nursing Home care
- Extension of 5 years for health care eligibility

Legislative Update: NDAA FY 2009

- Establishment of Centers of Excellence for hearing loss and auditory system injuries and traumatic extremity injuries and amputations
- Extension of the Senior Oversight Committee
- Establishment of Task Force on the Prevention of Suicide by Members of the Armed Forces

Legislative Update: NDAA FY2010

- Establishment of online resource
- Support for military families with special needs
- Assessment of the impact on children of severely wounded and Mental Health Needs
- Allotment for travel and transportation
 - Designated individuals
 - Non-medical attendants
- Reimbursement of travel expenses for specialty care
- Education of pain management
- Review of programs for substance abuse

Legislative Update: NDAA FY2010

- Notification of Medicare Part B enrollment
- Assessment of the use of service dogs
- Assessment of the efficacy of Cognitive Rehabilitative Therapy
- NG and Reserve members
 - Remain on AD status
 - Receive transition assistance
- Requirement for a medical exam prior to discharge and review of former members discharged with PTSD and TBI
- Establishment of a Task Force
- Compensation for service members with assistance in everyday living

Legislative Update: Proposed Caregiver Legislation

- ‘Disabled Veterans’ Caregiver Compensation Act’ (H.R. 3070) 110th Congress
- Ten bills have been introduced addressing caregivers (111th Congress)
- ‘Caregiver Assistance and Resource Enhancement Act’ (H.R. 3155)
- ‘Caregivers and Veterans Omnibus Health Services Act of 2009’ (S. 1963)

Thank You

Questions?

<http://www.militaryfamily.org/your-benefits/wounded-warriors/>