

MOAA Greenville Conference 6 to 8 Oct 2013

Legislative Update

Why do we have a legislative program?

- Education of the membership
- Monitoring legislation in DC and Columbia
- Interaction with elected officials
- Let elected officials know what you think about a bill

How a bill is enacted

- Elected official files a bill
- Co-sponsorship
- Critical Mass
- Similar Bills
- Committee action
- Floor action
- Bill passed and sent to the other chamber

What can we do to help?

- E-mail
- Phone
- Write
- Sign good petitions
- Town Hall meetings

Key legislation on the hill

- FY2014 Defense Authorization Bill HR1960 and S1192
- Passed by house
- Senate passage most likely in Dec 2013

FY 2014 Defense Authorization Bill Issues

- TRICARE Fee increase (House and Senate against DOD's proposal)
- Pay Raise (House 1.8% and the Senate 1.0%)
- UMCJ changes concerning Sexual Assault
- Veteran status for Guard/Reserve without Title 10 time
- Prime Service Area for people outside 40 mile limit
- End Strength levels
- Foreclosure Protection for service connected causes
- Minimum Notification for reserve units

Issues facing the military at the Federal Level

- Dave's top 10 list

10

- Transportation for VA eligible veterans from remote areas to VA facilities

9

- What is the definition of the title veteran?

8

- Limited military experience of elected officials

7

- High pricing at PX stores and gas stations as well as Class VI stores

6

- Backlog of VA claims

5

- myPay password

4

- Common Access Cards for Retirees

3

- Lost of Commissaries

2

- Loss of TRICARE and TRICARE for Life

1

- Degradation of the Military to defend the United States

Key Members for Military Issues

- House
 - Subcommittee Chairman Congressman Joe Wilson SC
 - And
 - Ranking member Congresswoman Susan A. Davis CA
- Senate
 - Subcommittee Chairwomen Senator Kirsten Gillibrand NY
 - And
 - Ranking member Senator Lindley Graham SC

Issues facing Veterans at the State Level

- Taxation of military retirement pay
- In-state tuition for all GI bill eligible Veterans
- Veteran Treatment Court Program
- Streamline out of state license procedures for military spouses
- Increase the number of Military Nursing Homes
- Funding the SC Veterans Trust Fund

Military related bills passed in last 2 years

- Military Service Occupation Education and Credentialing Act
- Veteran designations on driver licenses
- Added new special auto tags
- Codified half-mast flag rules for KIA's for the State Capital

SC 2013-2014 Legislature Report Card

- Bills submitted 32
- Bills passed 2
- Bills pending 30

- One House Resolution Congratulating Korean War Veterans

Power Players from SC for Veterans

- Aiken / Augusta Warrior Project

- Saratoga War Horse Foundation

Saratoga War Horse Foundation



Saratoga War Horse Foundation

- Cot and Ann Campbell
- Owners of Palace Malice
- Dogwood Stables
- And
- Jack Wetzel
- D&H Stables

Aiken / Augusta Warrior Project

- In the last 12 months AAWP has:
 - found 96 Warriors permanent housing
 - assisted 555 Warriors to enroll in school
 - helped 169 Warriors to find employment

- LTC Jim Lorraine USAF (ret.)
- Aiken MOAA

Questions????

- Sign up for legislative updates??