

Service Officer News

By Sebastian Rodriquez, Service Officer



Selected Legislative Goals for 2007

Retirement/Survivor Issues

- Preserve full-inflation cost-of-living adjustments (COLAs)
- Eliminate the Dependency and Indemnity Compensation (DIC) deduction from SBP
- Authorize full concurrent receipt of military retired pay and VA disability compensation, to include medical retirees with less than 20 years' service
- Accelerate effective date (currently 10/1/08) for 30-year paid-up SBP coverage
- Restore VA survivor annuities for qualifying widows who remarry after age 55
- Oppose changes in military retirement benefits that are inconsistent with service career sacrifices
- Expand permanent ID card eligibility for elderly / disabled beneficiaries
- Reform the Uniformed Services Former Spouse Protection Act (USFSPA)
- Authorize full-month final retired pay to survivors

Veterans, Family, Other Issues

- Improve quality, efficiency, and timeliness of VA claims-processing system
- Authorize pre-tax payment of health, dental and long-term care premiums
- Authorize equal treatment of currently serving families for pre-tax health / dependent care programs
- Provide incentives for civilian and government employers and contractors to hire military spouses.
- Authorize long-term mental counseling and support services for survivors and families of severely injured
- Win congressional approval of Flag anti-desecration amendment
- Repeal taxability of up to 85% of Social Security annuity
- Reduce Social Security penalties for certain civil service and state retirees/survivors
- Protect against disproportional Social Security / Medicare penalties for any population segment

Post 593 Christmas Baskets

Post 593 Service Officer Sebastian Rodriquez needs your help in filling Christmas Baskets for the needy. If you would like to help ... Here's the items we really need! Just drop them off at the Post and we'll do the rest!

- Yams
- Green Beans or Corn (canned)
- Brown Gravy Mix
- Stoffer (or Equiv.) Dressing (box)
- Cranberry Sauce (canned)
- Instant Potatoes (boxed)



History of the Legion Emblem: Part 4



Two Large Rings the outer one stands for the rehabilitation of our sick and disabled buddies. The inner one denotes the welfare of America's children.

Disabled Military Veterans to Get Memorial

The American Veterans Disabled for Life Memorial will be the first memorial to honor the sacrifices of America's 3 million disabled military veterans. The American Veterans Disabled for Life Memorial Foundation has raised half the money needed to build the \$65 million marble and glass memorial, which will be located on two acres of land adjacent to the National Mall within view of the U.S. Capitol. Groundbreaking is set for 2008, with completion planned in 2010. For more information, visit the [American Veterans Disabled for Life Website](#).

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